WEDNESDAY
March 8, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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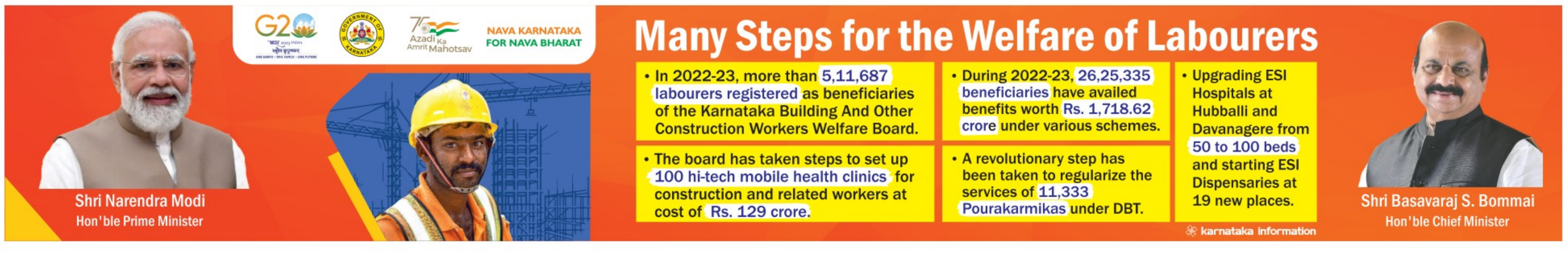

KHAJURAHO EXHIBITION

A showcase of returned antiquities

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UNPRECEDENTED PRACTICE

V-P appoints own staff in House committees

NEWS » PAGE 15

AI APPLICATIONS

Chatbot gaffes and chinks in the armour

A look at bot logic as an issue of concern

EDITORIAL » PAGE 12

Bribery case: BJP MLA gets interim anticipatory bail

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a temporary relief to BJP MLA K. Madal Virupakshappa, the High Court of Karnataka granted interim anticipatory bail in the alleged bribery case and directed him to surrender before the investigating officer within 48 hours.

On Tuesday, Justice K. Natarajan passed the interim order on a petition filed by the MLA, who has been arraigned as accused number one in the bribery case after his son, Prashanth Madal, was caught by the Lokayukta police taking a bribe of ₹40 lakh. The court said the interim bail would be in force till the disposal of petition filed by the MLA seeking anticipatory bail.

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MLA MAKES AN APPEARANCE
» PAGE 10

U.S. is trying to 'encircle' China: Foreign Minister

America's Indo-Pacific Strategy seeks to target China through creation of 'exclusive blocs', provokes confrontation and tries to create an Asia-Pacific version of NATO, says Qin Gang

Ananth Krishnan
BEIJING

China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang on Tuesday accused the United States of attempting "to encircle China" through its Indo-Pacific strategy, taking aim at what he called "exclusive blocs" led by the U.S.

"The U.S. 'Indo-Pacific Strategy' seeks to gang up to form exclusive blocs, stir up confrontation, and undermine regional integration," said Mr. Qin, speaking at the Foreign Ministry's annual press conference on the sidelines of the National People's Congress or Parliament session in Beijing.

"The 'Indo-Pacific Strategy' claims to safeguard regional security, but in fact it provokes confrontation and seeks to create an Asia-Pacific version of NATO," he said, adding that "the real purpose of its Indo-Pacific strategy is to encircle China". Chinese officials have previously referred to the India, U.S., Australia, Japan Quad grouping as well as the AUKUS (Australia-U.K.-U.S.) defence pact as being key elements of this strategy.

Mr. Qin's remarks followed sharp and rare direct criticism of the U.S. from Chinese President Xi Jinping, who on Monday, addressing a delegation on the sidelines of the NPC, said: "Western countries, led by the U.S., have implemented all-round containment and suppression of China, which has brought unprecedented severe challenges to the country's development".

Mr. Xi has emphasised self-reliance in key critical industries, a theme of the NPC session. The session is also expected to pass a number of laws overhauling the party-state machinery to bring greater party control and oversight over government bodies, continuing the trend of centralisation under Mr. Xi. Announced on Tuesday, among the draft measures to be approved by the NPC, was the creation of a new National Financial Regulatory Commission, a super regulatory body to manage China's $60 trillion banking assets.

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NEARBY

BBMP to restore bus shelters

BENGALURU
From their location to lack of basic infrastructure, complaints about bus shelters in Bengaluru are endless. Commuters complain that they do not serve even basic necessities. Now, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike is planning to renovate 60 bus shelters in Bengaluru and also add another four bus bays with thermo plastic painting.

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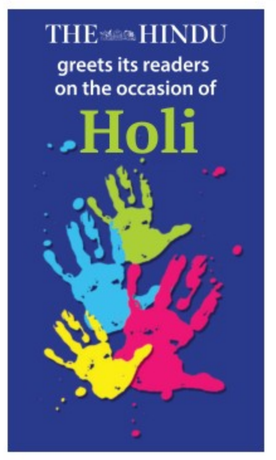

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 7

On Women's Day eve, Nagaland's first woman Minister assumes office

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

Breaking barriers: Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party leader Salhoutuonuo Kruse taking oath as a Minister. PTI

Ahead of International Women's Day, Salhoutuonuo Kruse made history on Tuesday by becoming Nagaland's first woman Minister.

The berth in the Nagaland Cabinet led by Neiphiu Rio came five days after she and Hekani Jakhalu were elected as the first women MLAs of the State. Both represent the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and BJP chief J.P. Nadda were present when Ms. Kruse created the record in Nagaland's 60-year-old journey.

Ms. Kruse and Ms. Jakhalu were among 183 candidates who contested the Nagaland polls on February 27. Two other women, one each fielded by the BJP and the Congress, lost.

Ms. Kruse's appointment came after Governor La. Ganesan swearing in Mr. Rio and a few others. They included the administration of the oath of office and secrecy to two Deputy Chief Ministers, a first for Nagaland – Yanthungo Patton of the BJP and Taditui Rangkau Zeliang of the NDPP. Mr. Zeliang, a two-time Chief Minister, had preceded Mr. Rio, who has occupied the top seat for the fifth time.

The NDPP and the BJP have a total of 37 MLAs in the 60-member Assembly. Almost all the other 23 MLAs have extended support to the government, making it opposition-less.

NOT WITHOUT CHALLENGES
» PAGE 14

With hard hats and shovels, women break the rock ceiling in the deep

Shiv Sahay Singh
ASANSOL/DHANBAD

Slow change: Coal India Limited's 20,000 women workers make up just 8% of its 2.4lakh workforce. DEBASISH BHADURI

The blooms of the palash tree have set the rugged brown landscape of Asansol and Dhanbad on fire. In this otherwise dreary coal mining belt, 3,277 women of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL) have emerged ground breakers: they crack through hard rocky surfaces, mining coal with heavy machinery, while breaking gender stereotypes.

The ECL, which works across West Bengal and Jharkhand, is a subsidiary of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) that employs approximately 20,000 women, and is the top employer of women in a Central public sector enterprise. That is just 8% of the company's 2.4-lakh workforce. The share of women in traditional male-dominated on-field mining activities is lower still. However, this male bastion is slowly being breached.

In the vast expanse of Sonepur Bazari in West Bengal's Raniganj Coalfields open-cast mine, where coal is extracted from an open pit, 49-year-old Bindu Paswan rides laboriously on a giant mechanised shovel. Within 20 minutes she fills a 60-tonne dumper. "She is among our best workers," an overseer said.

"Many of the women are the finest HEMM (heavy earth moving machinery) operators we have," said Vinay Ranjan, Director, Personnel and Industrial Relations, CIL.

Ms. Paswan, who finished Class 9, joined ECL after her husband's death. The job was offered on compassionate grounds; instead of an office job like her husband's, the mother of four daughters opted to work in the mine. Her daughters, she said, were proud of her. Three years after joining in 2010 she was put on ground, to operate a shovel.

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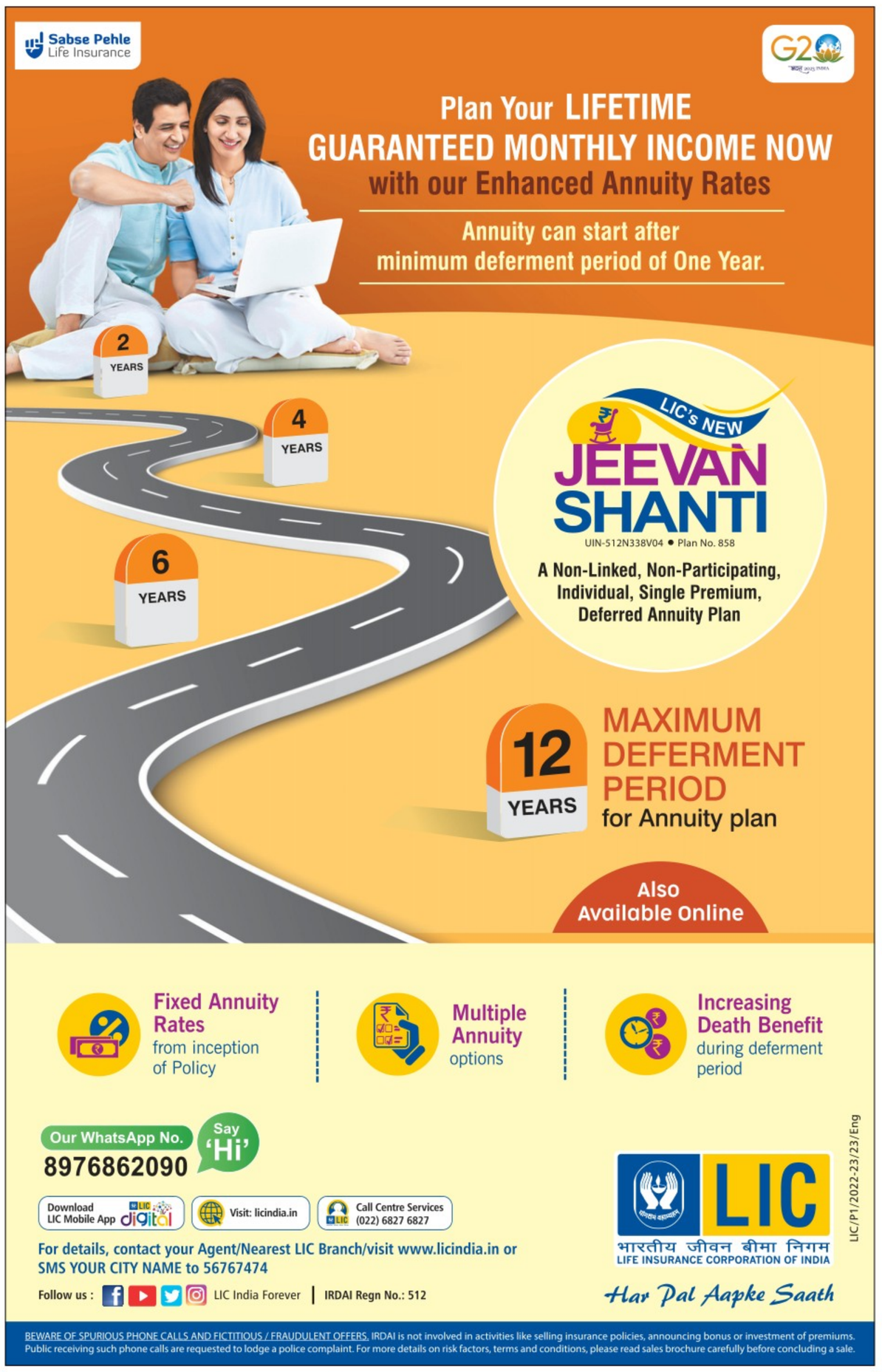

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

6,800 In ₹ crore, the worth of the contract signed by the Defence Ministry with the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), to procure 70 HTT-40 basic trainer aircraft. According to the Ministry, the HTT-40 is a turbo prop aircraft possessing good low speed handling qualities. It added that "the ships can also be deployed for evacuation of people from distress areas". PTI

560 The number of fishermen from Gujarat in Pakistan jails after they were apprehended by authorities of that country in the Arabian sea, according to State Fisheries Minister Raghavji Patel. He further stated that 274 of the 560 fishermen were apprehended by Pakistan authorities in the last two years alone. Of them (274), 193 were jailed in 2021 and 81 in 2022. PTI

10 In percentage, the share of women who account for the total fund managers in the mutual fund industry despite a gradual increase in their numbers witnessed in the last few years, according to The Morningstar Investment Adviser India's annual report on women fund managers in the asset-management industry. The report added that the total count of women fund managers has increased from 32 last year to 42 now. PTI

142 The number of active fire points detected across Odisha raging with forest fires, the highest in the country. 391 active fire incidents were reported from across the country by 12 noon on Tuesday. The FSI data said 12 of the 30 districts of Odisha reported forest fire incidents on Tuesday. Mayurbhanj district, where the Similipal National Park is located, reported the maximum number of forest fires. PTI

25 In percentage, the rise in acute malnutrition among pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers in the past two years in 12 countries, hard hit by rising prices fuelled by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, according to a UNICEF report. Globally, 51 million children under two years old are stunted, and half of them become stunted during pregnancy or within the first six months of life. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Is heat in India set to get worse?

What does the CSTEP study on India's historical climate show? Has temperature increased in summer and winter? What about the diurnal temperature range? What are some of the innovative climate action strategies that one can emulate?

EXPLAINER

Indu K. Murthy

The story so far:

This year the month of February was the hottest so far since 1901 in India. According to a study in *The Lancet*, published in July 2021, with two decades of data (2000-2019), more than five million people died on average each year worldwide because of extreme temperatures. The Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change states that extreme heat events will grow with increasing global warming and that every increment of warming matters.

How much has temperature increased?

A study by the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) on the historical climate in India shows that temperature in India has been steadily increasing during both summer and winter. The recorded increase in maximum and minimum temperature over 30 years (1990-2019) is up to 0.9°C and 0.5°C, respectively.

Summer temperatures have increased by 0.5°C to 0.9°C in many districts in Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and the northeast. Likewise, winter temperatures have also increased by 0.5°C to 0.9°C in 54% of India's districts, with higher levels of warming in the northern States compared to the southern States. This increasing heat is a cause of suffering and death in extreme cases. It undermines systems such as agriculture and other climate-sensitive sectors that support the livelihoods and well-being of people.

A joint report by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre on preparing for heatwaves state that an extreme-heat event that was likely to happen only once in every 50 years without the influence of humans on climate is now likely to happen five times with human-induced climate change in the same period. If the warming is under 2°C, such events will occur 14 times; if the warming is kept under 4°C, they will occur almost 40 times.

How much hotter can it get?

Climate projections for the districts of India by the CSTEP study for a 30-year period of 2021-2050 show that the maximum temperature during summer will increase even under a 'moderate emissions' scenario. The increase is higher under higher emissions scenarios – likely to be greater than 2°C and up to 3.5°C in over 100 districts and 1.5-2°C in about 455 districts. Even winter minimum temperatures are projected to increase by 0.5°C to 3.5°C in the future. While the highest warming of 2.5°C to 3°C is projected in fewer than 1% of the districts, an increase by 1°C to 1.5°C is projected in about 485 districts.

It is clear that both summer maximum and winter minimum temperatures will increase in the future. This can affect the growth of plants, ecological systems, and even the carbon economy as the extreme variations in temperature between days and nights will affect the quality of the soil.

The diurnal temperature range (DTR) – the variation between high air temperature and low temperature during a single day – is also changing. A December 2020 study supported by the Department of Science and Technology reported an alarming decline in DTR between 1991 and 2016 over the north-west parts of the Gangetic plain, and central India agro-climatic zones. This decline signifies an asymmetric increase in the minimum temperature compared to the maximum, which in turn increases the risk of heat stress. This also leads to drought, crop failure, and higher morbidity and mortality. The joint report by IFRC and others also state that in the near future, heat waves could meet and surpass the human threshold to withstand them physiologically and socially, leading to large-scale suffering, death, and migration. From an urban perspective, the combined effects of warming and urbanisation will cause a significant increase in the number of people at risk of extreme heat.

According to a 2019 International Labour Organization report, India is expected to lose 5.8% of working-hours in 2030 due to heat stress. The loss in agriculture and construction sectors will be 9.04%, which translates to 34 million full-time jobs. The July 2021 study suggests that future death rates caused by extreme heat could be staggeringly high by the end of the century, which is comparable in magnitude to all cancers or infectious diseases.

What should be done?

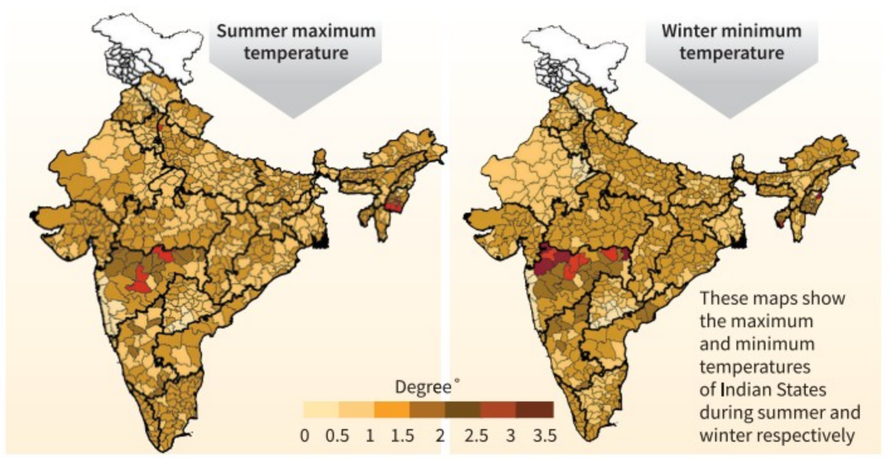
More than ever, it is imperative that States step up and share responsibility with other stakeholders to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction through improved early warning systems, creation of public awareness, and formulation of heat action plans.

In addition, we also need to consider innovative strategies to combat extreme heat, such as emergency cooling centres (similar to the ones in Toronto and Paris); survival guides that are strategically displayed to survive extreme heat or heat waves (like in Athens); white roofs (Los Angeles); green rooftops (Rotterdam); self-shading tower blocks (Abu Dhabi); and green corridors (Medellin). But most of all, it is crucial we prepare district-level heat hotspot maps so that different departments of a State and/or district can design long-term measures to reduce deaths due to extreme heat.

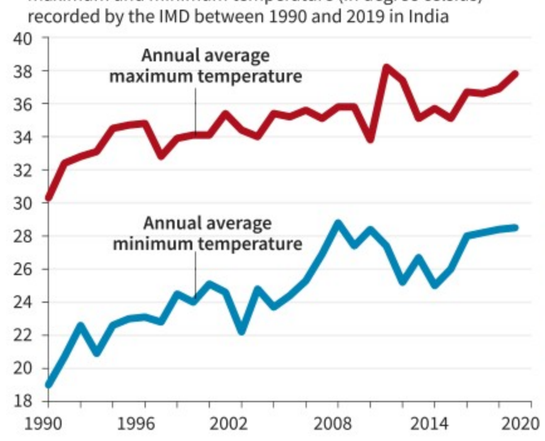
Indu K. Murthy is a Principal Research Scientist heading the Climate, Environment and Sustainability Sector at the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), a research-based think tank.

Getting hotter by the year

The climate crisis is no longer a distant event that might happen in the future. Extreme events such as record-high temperatures and heavy rainstorms are becoming more common.



Heat over the years | A look at the year-wise annual average maximum and minimum temperature (in degree celsius) recorded by the IMD between 1990 and 2019 in India



THE GIST

- According to a study in *The Lancet*, published in July 2021, with two decades of data (2000-2019), more than five million people died on average each year worldwide because of extreme temperatures.
- Summer temperatures have increased by 0.5°C to 0.9°C in many districts in Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and the northeast.
- It is imperative that States step up and share responsibility with other stakeholders to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction through improved early warning systems, creation of public awareness, and formulation of heat action plans.

How did the treaty on the high seas come through?

What is the treaty on Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)? How important are the high seas to human survival and well-being?

Sumeda

The story so far:

Last week, the UN member states agreed on a historic treaty for protecting marine life in international waters that lie outside the jurisdiction of any country. The 'breakthrough' followed talks led by the UN during the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) on Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) where negotiations were underway for the past two weeks. The treaty is yet to be formally adopted as members are yet to ratify it.

What are the high seas?

Parts of the sea that are not included in the territorial waters or the internal waters of a country are known as the high seas, according to the 1958 Geneva Convention on the High Seas. No country is responsible for the management and protection of resources on the high seas.

How important are the high seas?

The high seas account for more than 60% of the world's ocean area and cover about half of the Earth's surface, which makes them a hub of marine life. They are home to around 2.7 lakh known species, many of which are yet to be discovered. The high seas are fundamental to human survival and well-being.

However, these oceans absorb heat from the atmosphere, are affected by phenomena like the El Nino, and are also undergoing acidification – all of which endanger marine flora and fauna. Several thousand marine species are at a risk of extinction by 2100 if current warming and acidification trends continue.

Anthropogenic pressures on the high seas include seabed mining, noise pollution, chemical spills and fires, disposal of untreated waste (including antibiotics), overfishing, introduction of invasive species, and coastal pollution. Despite the alarming situation, the high seas remain as one of the least-protected areas, with only about 1% of it under protection.

How long did the process take?

In 1982, the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, or UNCLOS was adopted. The Convention delineated rules to govern the oceans and the use of its resources. But there was no comprehensive legal framework that covered the high seas. As climate change and global warming emerged as global concerns, a need was felt for an international legal framework to protect oceans and marine life. After years of informal discussions, the UNGA decided in 2015 to develop a legally binding instrument within the framework of UNCLOS. Subsequently, the IGC was convened to frame a legal instrument on BBNJ. There were several hold-ups due to the COVID pandemic, hampering a timely global response. Last year, the European Union launched the High Ambition Coalition on BBNJ to finalise the agreement at the earliest.

What is the treaty?

The draft agreement of the 'High Seas Treaty' recognises the need to address biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystems of the ocean. It places "30% of the world's oceans into protected areas, puts more money into marine conservation and covers access to and use of marine genetic resources," as per the United Nations.

An important negotiating point, and source of tension during the talks, was developing countries' access to benefits reaped from the commercialisation of resources (especially genetic resources) extracted from the ocean. The treaty has agreed to setup an access- and benefit-sharing committee to frame guidelines. It was also underlined that activities concerning marine genetic resources of areas on high seas should be in the interests of all States and for the benefit of humanity. They have to be carried out exclusively for peaceful purposes.

THE GIST

- The United Nations member states have finally agreed on a treaty for protecting marine life in international waters that lie outside the jurisdiction of any country.
- The draft agreement of the 'High Seas Treaty' recognises the need to address biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystems of the ocean.
- The high seas account for more than 60% of the world's ocean area and cover about half of the Earth's surface, which makes them a hub of marine life.

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Let alone menstrual leave, these women don't have access to washrooms or sanitary pads

Although the BBMP inaugurated Suvidha cabins or restrooms for women civic workers in January 2022, more than a year later, women pourakarmikas say they have no access to either these cabins or menstrual products

WOMEN'S DAY

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

In the absence of basic amenities, women pourakarmikas are forced to go to vacant sites or to the space between parked vehicles to change their sanitary pads. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Garment workers trek back to their homes, after their work, on railway tracks near Jnana Bharathi Railway Station in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

While corporate companies and others in the organised sector are debating about providing menstrual leave to working women, for lakhs working in the unorganised sector, even access to bathrooms, let alone hygienic ones, still seems like a luxury. Lack of affordable menstrual products, strenuous physical labour even on menstruating days and problems in dealing with male managers are some of the other problems these women face.

Plight of pourakarmikas

Although the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had inaugurated Suvidha cabins or restrooms for women civic workers in January 2022, more than a year later, women pourkarmikas said they had no access to these cabins. Hence, during their menstrual cycle, many of them are forced to go to vacant sites or to the space between parked vehicles to change their sanitary pads.

"Those who have their houses nearby can go and change there. But even for that, we need to take permission from supervisors. There is no question of taking leave on those days as we cannot afford to lose our pay. We have no place to get drinking water or eat our food or use the washroom facilities. Despite repeated complaints to the BBMP, we have still not received the keys to the restrooms," said Chandrakala R., a pourakarmika in the Herohalli ward.

Mental harassment

In many households, domestic workers are told not to touch certain things, or not to go near some places (and in some cases, not even come to work) on menstruating days. When a woman takes more than three days of menstrual leave, they are taunted and shouted at, the workers reported.

"Even though the workers clean those bathrooms, they are not allowed to use them, even during periods. If they get their period while on the way to the workplace or at the workplace, they are helpless. Menstrual issues are not just physical problems; they mental problems," said Radha, of the Domestic Workers' Rights Union (DWRU).

She added that even in apartments where separate toilets are built for security guards and domestic workers, they cannot use them as they are always dirty and stinky.

Crisis during construction

Unless the supervisor provides a small washroom on the construction site, many workers still carry water in a plastic box and go to open spaces to attend to nature's call. Menstrual days are no exception. These women also have no access to sanitary pads or any other menstrual products and end up using cloths. "We have to work on those days or we lose ₹400, which is our daily wage. These days, masons are a little more considerate, and if women inform that they have severe pain or giddiness, they let them rest. However, access to bathrooms is not guaranteed for us during menstruation," said Bhagyamma, an immigrant worker from Raichur who is working in Bengaluru.

Grievances of the garment sector

The majority of the workforce at garment factories is women. The concept of period leave is unimaginable in the sector. With hundreds of workers on one floor, the four to five toilet stalls are no cleaner than public toilets. The rigid nature of work here makes it harder for women to work when on their period.

"Not all women go through pain during their periods. But the ones who do should be given special consideration. Instead of making them sit or stand in the same place for hours, there should be more flexibility. We have also noticed that many women do not even take a bathroom break to change their menstrual products as it they think it will affect the production at the factory," said Pratibha R., President, Garment and Textile Workers' Union.

Many women fear Catch-22 situation if they are forced to work on night shift

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Karnataka Assembly recently passed The Factories (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2023, which among other things allows women to be employed in night shifts on factory floors, albeit with a long list of safety precautions. While Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has praised the Bill as providing "equal opportunities" irrespective of gender, it has met with resistance on the ground. A coalition of trade unions have planned to hold a protest in the city on March 8, International Women's Day.

Earlier in 2020, the State government had allowed women to work night shifts in all shops and establishments, which mainly impacted the hospitality industry and the IT sectors. The recent amendment passed in the Assembly, yet to get the presidential assent, pertains to factory floors.

Where women are employed most

Presently, the biggest employer of women on the factory floor is the garments sector, while a small minority of them are employed in assembly of electronic gadgets like mobile phones and food processing sectors like seafood and gherkins export units, said a senior officer from Department of Factories, Boilers, Industrial Safety and Health.

Pratibha R., President, Garment and Textile Workers' Union (GATWU), said the Union has strongly opposed to night shifts for women in the sector and would not allow the same to be implemented.

"Night shift for women may work in the IT and hospitality sectors, but women working in the garments sector come from a social background that may not let them work night shifts. The situation at home is also not such that they can go home and rest the next day," she said.

Workplace and home

Many women workers *The Hindu* spoke to fear a "Catch 22" situation where they may lose their jobs if they refuse to work night shifts, even as they may be asked to quit by families.

Lakshmi, an employee in the electronics assembly sector, "Working night shifts will be very difficult given the situation at home. Many women may be forced to quit work."

"While the amendment stipulates consent from women workers to be deployed on night shifts, procuring them is not at all tough for the management, given the hire and fire situation in the sector," said Ms. Pratibha.

Varalakshmi, General Secretary, Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), Karnataka, too said that the consent clause in the Bill will provide no effective safety.

The Bill makes it a transaction between the employee and employer, and does not even involve the Labour Department, which makes coersion easy, she argued.

However, given that the garments sector – the biggest employer of women on the factory floor with no night shifts now – is export oriented and is hit by a global economic slowdown, it is unlikely that they will start night shifts now, said Ramesh Chandra Lahoti, Senior Vice President, Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

He also said starting night shifts in the sector would mean additional investments towards transport. Ms. Pratibha said they were, in fact, more concerned about the Bill providing for 12 hour workdays which they feel the garment sector will take to soon.

No salary parity

Satyanand Mukund, General Secretary, All India Trade Union Congress, questioned the logic behind equal opportunities that the government has cited.

"The Chief Minister has boasted that this Bill provides equal opportunities irrespective of gender and branded it as a pro-women measure. But if that is so, why did his government fix minimum wages in the garments sector, which mostly employs women at ₹1,750 less than ₹14,500 fixed for the automobile sector that mostly employs men?" he asked.

Women on factory floor

Biggest employer
Garments sector

Other sectors
Food processing and packaging: biscuits, seafood, gherkin exports

Electronics assembly units: mobile phones

Prerequisites to deploy women on night shift as per the Factories (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2023

- Written consent from women; they should be deployed in a batch of not less than 10
- Factory must provide door-step transport facilities. No woman employee should be picked first or dropped last. Pre-screening of drivers
- Complaint redressal mechanism in factory to be established
- Sufficient number of restrooms, proper lighting, security at all entry and exit points and CCTV cameras on the premises
- There can be no change of shifts except after a weekly holiday or any other holiday

Free ride for women on city buses today

Suchith Kidiyoor
BENGALURU

On an average, 29 lakh people rely on BMTC bus services in Bengaluru. It is said that around 25 to 30% of passengers are women. K. MURALI KUMAR

Women in Bengaluru can take free rides in city buses on Women's Day. The Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), to mark the day, has decided to offer free bus rides in all types of buses, including premier AC services operated to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

The primary objectives of the outreach programme are to provide a safe public transport system to women and increase the ridership of city buses by encouraging women to switch to public transport from other modes of transport.

The BMTC last offered free bus rides for Bengalureans when it turned 25 years on August 15, 2022. This is the first time women are being offered free bus rides on March 8. The corporation has a fleet size of 6,600 buses and runs schedules of 5,567 buses every day. It operates 50,000 trips and covers a distance of 10.84 lakh km.

On average, 29 lakh people rely on city bus services. It is said around 25% to 30% of passengers are women. On March 8, more than 20 lakh women are expected to travel in city buses.

The corporation recently approached the State Government seeking its permission to offer free rides for women on International Women's Day. It is estimated that BMTC may have to let go of fare revenue of over ₹ 8 crore to provide the free rideS.

BMTC MD G.Sathyavathi said, "On International Women's Day, we want to pass the message to women of Bengaluru to use public transport and that it is safe for them. It is also an outreach programme by the Corporation to popularise our services and get more patronage in the coming days. On Wednesday, we are running all the scheduled operations and women will be allowed to travel in all services, including those operated to the Airport, for free."

BMTC soon to launch women safety mobile app

Suchith Kidiyoor
BENGALURU

After an inordinate delay, the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) is confident of launching a mobile app with safety features for women passengers by March.

Under the Nirbhaya Scheme, the corporation had received funds of ₹56.07 crore to implement various project that include launching a mobile app with SoS and other women safety measures. Other projects that were sanctioned under the scheme are installation of CCTV cameras inside the buses, vehicle tracking system, passenger information system, self defence training for 2,810 women employees and gender sensitisation. The corporation has utilised funds to the extent of ₹22.28 crore.

CCTV cameras in buses

G. Sathyavathi, MD, BMTC said, "Funds sanctioned under Nirbhaya Scheme provide a safe environment for women to travel in public transport. We have utilised the funds for installation of CCTV cameras in our buses. Already, fitment is done in 5,000 buses. Installation of devices for tracking vehicles has also been done using the fund. Another project which is part of Nirbhaya fund is launching the mobile app that provides safety features for women travellers. By March, we will launch the app." She added that the passenger information system will be made available at 500 points for the benefit of the passengers. She further said, "Due to various factors such as COVID-19, short supply in semiconductor chips, issues with hardware supplies and others, execution was delayed. The app will be launched once we achieve more accuracy on tracking buses. By March, we have planned to launch the app for public usage."

Tracking and journey planner

The app, which is under testing, has features such as identifying the nearest bus stop, journey planner, tracking a route, fare calculator, purchase of tickets and passes. "The application will be used by lakhs of people in the city. Considering the magnitude of the usage of the app in the coming days, we have to achieve accuracy of data to make the application more useful for the general public. To achieve the desired accuracy on the data which is AI-backed, we need some time. We are on the job and will shortly introduce the mobile app. Other than primary functions such as real time information on bus arrivals, trip planning and others, the app provides various safety features that include SoS, informing a near one about the bus in which they are travelling and route," A.V.Surya Sen, Director (IT), BMTC.

Karnataka's first woman drone pilot explores opportunities in B2B sector

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

Archana Muthappa has become the first DGCA-certified woman drone pilot in Karnataka and a drone instructor. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A career as a drone pilot is much sought after in the aviation sector with Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) or drones being used for everything from filming weddings to spraying pesticides in agricultural fields.

Flying drones is no longer limited to men, in the last couple of years, a number of women have become drone pilots in the country. Karnataka too recently got its first woman Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) certified drone pilot.

> I did a certified course at Flytech Aviation Academy in Hyderabad in October 2021. The course included both theory as well as practical training.
>
> **ARCHANA MUTHAPPA**
> Communications specialist, drone pilot

Archana Muthappa, a communications specialist who did a drone training course at Hyderabad-based Flytech Aviation Academy, received her Remote Pilot Certificate (RPC) a few days ago making her the first drone pilot in the State.

"I did a certified course at Flytech Aviation Academy in Hyderabad in October 2021. The course consisted of both theory as well as practical training," said Ms. Muthappa. She has received her certificate for operating drones in the small category and the licence to operate them will be valid till February 2033.

DGCA has categorised drones in five categories based on their weight which are Nano (up to 250gm), Micro (250 gm to 2 kg), Small (2 kg to 25 kg), Medium (25kg to 150 kg) and Large (more than 150 kg).

Business opportunities

Ms. Muthappa said that she is planning to explore opportunities in the Business-to-Business (B2B) sector to operate drones rather than do drone photo or videography.

"When I enrolled for the course I thought that it would be fun to do (fly drones). But now I am looking at options in the B2B segment for example like in agriculture there is a huge demand for drones be it for spraying pesticides or doing aerial surveys," Ms. Muthappa said.

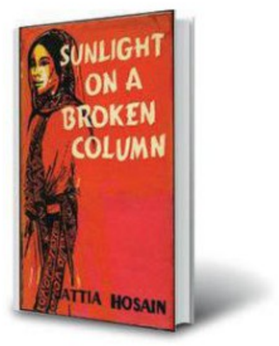
Apart from being a certified drone pilot, Ms. Muthappa is also a drone instructor for which he has completed a DGCA course.

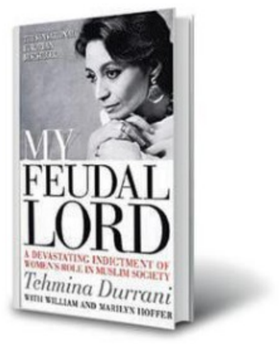
As an instructor she would be authorised to train drone pilots or to work in drone flight training organisations.

Who can become a drone pilot?

Anyone who has attained 18 years of age, having passed 10 standard with English proficiency, and undergone ground and practical training at any DGCA-approved Flying Training Organisation can opt for it.

BIBLIOGRAPHY





ISTOCKPHOTO

A celebration of women writers from the Indian subcontinent

On International Women's Day, we look at the profiles of some trailblazing South Asian women authors, from India to Bhutan to Bangladesh, whose writing takes a closer look at the way patriarchy, injustice and inequalitiy in society function to confine and oppress women

Soma Basu

Several women authors of the Indian subcontinent have made a mark with their bold and incisive writing.

From the legendary Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, the first woman Muslim writer from colonial Bengal, who wrote about the oppression of women and their liberation at a time when it was unthinkable to the crusader-writer Mahasweta Devi, inspired by the ordinary Adivasi, Dalit and the marginalised citizens, the region has given birth to many women writers who have challenged the absurdities of society and risen against its various challenges to their progress and upliftment.

There are quite a few books that examine patriarchal mindsets in society and highlight how women are held back by ignorance of their rights.

Sultanar Swapna written by Rokeya Hossain in 1905 is said to be one of the earliest depictions of a feminist utopia, wherein she speaks of role reversal to show society what women are capable of if given the opportunity.

Over the decades, many women writers in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh followed in her footsteps, seeking emancipation of women.

Holding a mirror to reality

Attia Hosain was among the first Indians who wrote in English, holding a mirror to reality. Her only published novel, *Sunlight on a Broken Column* (1961), gives a perspective on Partition, nationalism and her awakening into feminism. Even after more than 60 years of its publication, the book is relevant because it captures disdain for shallow patriotism via a 15-year-old protagonist, impacted by Partition. Though the story begins with the syncretic spirit of undivided India and is built on the over-arching frame of the freedom movement, it is also the teenager's life story amid upheavals; how she battles to emancipate herself from the shackles of religion and convention, given the political rhetoric of hatred over the separation of India and Pakistan. The chilling resonance with contemporary India cannot be glossed over.

Cracking India (1991) by Bapsi Sidhwa, the Pakistani novelist with Gujarati-Parsi roots, is another Partition story, with the eruption of religious, ethnic and radical violence thereafter. Partially autobiographical, it talks about the unique position of Parsis in Lahore and in India and how the community left an indelible impression in places that were communally transformed in no time. Books like these, which recall the forgotten values of humanity even in the time of hate, are necessary reading for the times.

Likewise, Bangladeshi writer Tahmima Anam's first novel, *A Golden Age* (2007), tells the story of her country's war of liberation through the eyes of one family and how the main character, a widow and a mother, struggles with finding her own identity and understanding the passionate nationalism of her children who get embroiled in the civil war.

Born to Punjabi parents in London, Tasha Suri's debut novel *Empire of Sand* (2018) is a Mughal-India inspired fantasy that navigates patriarchy, caste, arranged marriage and religious extremism. With the young woman protagonist setting out to save the world from dark and devastating machinations, it is a tribute to the fierce and silent strength of women that is easy to identify with.

Rights and reconciliation

Women writers over the years have expressed their suffering in different voices.

Pakistani author Tehmina Durrani, now married to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, shocked everybody with the sensational exposure of her politically famous husband Mustafa Khar, accusing him of abuse for years. In her 1991 autobiography *My Feudal Lord*, she wrote men like Khar derived power from the distorted version of Islam that was unfortunately supported by society, and women themselves. She was brave enough to vividly describe the intense abuse she suffered but paid a heavy price for it as she was shunned by her parents and society. It made her stand up for women's rights. The book has been translated into 40 languages and has won many awards.

To know about the inception of women's rights movement in Nepal, a must-read is *Yogamaya* (2018) by Neelam Karki Niharika. The book captures the journey of an activist who remarries twice to dare the autocratic Rana regime, which banned widows from marrying, and in the process plays an instrumental role in abolishing Sati Pratha (the act of self-immolation on the funeral pyre of a husband) in 1920. Protesting the oppressive policies against women and their rights, the activist commits mass suicide with 67 disciples in 1941. Yogmaya is considered the icon of freedom for women trying to go beyond confined boundaries of gender and reclaim their space in society and explore their unique self without the fear of social stigma and discrimination.

Faculty at the English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, B.S. Sherin's writings deal with the troubled political existence of Muslim women in India. In *Gendering Minorities* (2021), she explores the politics of modernity that puts Muslim women at the receiving end of mainstream violence and extremism. While examining Muslim women's negotiations with their cultural and religious identities, she also analyses the exclusion and homogenisation of women and the unsaid ban on their progress.

A search for women writers in Bhutan brings up Kunzang Choden. She is the first Bhutanese woman to write a novel in English, *The Circle of Karma* (2005). It takes place in the 1950s, in the initial period of imperially regulated modernisation in Bhutan. The main character is forced to deal both with the traditional and restrictive gender role and a new kind of sexism she faces with men gaining economic freedom.

Women suffer because of their identity and when visceral realities circumvent their lives, they make us rethink what it means to be a woman.

No matter which part of the globe she belongs to, the need to speak for herself is cathartic because a woman writes to bring the world closer.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On this Women's Day, here is a quiz on Indian women who shattered glass ceilings in the field of cinema, sports, business, and science

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
Widely acknowledged as the first lady of Indian cinema, she was an Indian actress who was active in Hindi films during the 1930s and 1940s. She and her husband also established one of the finest movie studios in Bombay. Who was she? Identify the studio.

QUESTION 2
She is an Indian mountaineer and sportswoman. Known as the world's first female amputee to scale Mount Everest, she was also an Indian volleyball player. In 2019, she climbed the seventh peak in Antarctica and became the world's first female amputee to climb the said peak. Who is she?

QUESTION 3
She has received international acclaim for pioneering the Herbal beauty care movement and taking the Indian herbal heritage of Ayurveda worldwide. She opened her first herbal clinic in 1971 and over the next few years formed her company. Who is she?

QUESTION 4
Claimed to be the first female Indian sociologist, she was also the first Indian female anthropologist. Some of her works include Paripurti, Bhovara, and Amachi Samskruti, among others. Who was she? Name her book.

QUESTION 5
She was an Australian-born actress and stuntwoman, who worked in Indian cinema. She is most remembered as the masked, cloaked adventurer in *Hunterwali*, released in 1935. Who was she?

QUESTION 6
She is the first Indian woman to win a medal at the Olympics in 2000. Who is she? How many medals did India win that year?

Visual question:
Identify her. She became the first woman to receive this honour. What was it?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1.The world's southernmost mammal. **Ans: Weddell Seal**
2. The highest mountain in Antarctica was named after this American politician in 2006. **Ans: Carl Vinson. Mount Vinson is the highest mountain in the continent and the eighth highest in the world.**
3. The first human being to reach the south pole. **Ans: Roald Amundsen**
4. The term by which indigenous people of Antarctica are addressed. **Ans: There are no indigenous people in Antarctica.**
5. The second largest desert in the world. **Ans: The Arctic Desert**
6. The most widely distributed penguin in Antarctica. **Ans: Adelie penguins**
7. The Indian research centre in Antarctica which is used as a supply base. **Ans: Dakshin Gangotri.**
8. Visual: Identify the image. **Ans: Blood Falls is a waterfall in Antarctica where saltwater is tainted by iron oxide.**
Early Birds: K. N. Viswanathan| V. Siddhartha

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Several readers want to know the meaning and use of the word 'charisma.'"

" 'Charisma' means 'a gift or power of leadership or authority,' 'strong personal appeal or magnetism, specially in politics.' Increasingly it is getting equated with 'sex appeal' and 'glamour.'

People like him as he has charisma.

He is a strong-willed man, but even he succumbed to the charisma of the leader.

A charismatic person has 'the capacity to inspire followers with devotion and enthusiasm.' The word 'charisma' is of recent origin. The word 'charism' has been in use in English since the seventeenth century. 'Charism' is from Greek 'kharisma' which means 'gift of grace,' 'a special favour vouchsafed by God.' It was originally a theological term for a supernatural grace or gift bestowed by God on select individuals.The modern meaning is about 40 years old."

"Dr. Vyas ji Tripathi, Misra Pokhra, Varanasi, wants to know the meaning and pronunciation of 'largess (e).'"

"Largess or largesse is 'money or gifts freely bestowed, especially by a great person on occasion of rejoicing,' 'generous or plentiful bestowal.' The word implies that what is given is given in a pompous and ostentatious manner. What is given is not given privately. It is given publicly with a lot of publicity, fanfare. In this respect, the word has a bad connotation.

Some resent the way the Prime Minister is distributing largess to states when he visits them.

The 'a' in 'largess' is pronounced like the 'a' in 'part.' The 'r' is silent. 'gess' rhymes with 'less.' The 'g' is pronounceed like the 'g' in 'gist' and 'gin.' The stress is on the second syllable 'gess.'"

"Mr. U. Gomathinayagam, Trivandrum Road, Palavamcottai wants to know the meaning of the word 'sophisticated' in 'sophisticated weapons.'"

" 'Sophisticated' has several meanings. They have been discussed in this column. When it is used with equipment, technique, it means 'elaborate, using advanced methods, highly developed or complicated.'

His camera is a sophisticated one."

"Ms. Jayashree of Hyderabad wants to know whether the second 'd' in 'didn't' is silent."

No. 'Didn't' is pronounced 'didnt.' Generally, the 't' in 'didn't' is not pronounced when the word is not in final position. That is, in a sentence like 'I didn't go,' the 't' is generally not pronounced. In a sentence like 'I don't know whether he did or didn't', the 't' in 'didn't' is generally pronounced."

Published in The Hindu on March 10, 1987

Word of the day

Protract:
lengthen in time; cause to be or last longer

Synonyms: draw out, extend, prolong

Usage: *The protracted talks had finally come to an end.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/protractedpro

International Phonetic Alphabet:
/pɹəˈtɹakt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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International Women's Day

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Women are naturally made to be the gentle version of the human race, the epitome of warmth & affection, their ability to wear multiple hats is blessing in disguise. Despite challenges such as gender-based discrimination, inequality, and violence. Women have made significant progress in achieving gender equality, breaking stereotypes, and empowering themselves.

SPARSH Hospital, proudly acknowledges every woman on 'International Women's Day' The SPARSH family extends its deepest voice to **Women's Health & Wellbeing.** SPARSH Hospital is home to expert doctors in Women & Children, where women can reach out for solutions from the simplest to the most complex of health issues that they face through all stages of ageing. At SPARSH Hospital, we advocate the importance of a healthy lifestyle & preventive health checks as an investment for life that yield dividends in the long run.

What women need to know about their health?

- **Reproductive Health :** Women's health includes the reproductive system, which plays a vital role in their overall health. Preventive screening can help detect and prevent reproductive health issues such as cervical cancer, breast cancer, and ovarian cancer.
- **Pregnancy & Childbirth :** Women's health is also important for successful pregnancy & childbirth. Proper prenatal care and medical attention during childbirth can help prevent complications and ensure the health of both mother and baby.
- **Hormonal Health :** Women's health is influenced by hormonal changes throughout their life - during puberty, menstrual cycles, pregnancy and menopause. Hormonal imbalances can lead to a variety of health issues, such as osteoporosis, thyroid disorders, and reproductive disorders.
- **Mental Health :** Women are more likely to experience mental health issues such as depression and anxiety than men. It is important for women to seek treatment and support to manage their mental health and well-being.
- **Comprehensive Healthcare :** Women's health is important for their overall well-being and quality of life. Maintaining a healthy lifestyle, including regular exercise, healthy diet, avoiding smoking & excessive alcohol consumption, can go a long way in ensuring overall well being.

Talk to our experts to know more

Dr. Prathima Reddy
Director & Lead Consultant, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
SPARSH Hospital for Women & Children

Dr. Nivedita Jha
Consultant – Obstetrics and Gynaecology
SPARSH Hospital for Women & Children

Dr. Deepthi Bawa
Consultant Gynaecologist, Laparoscopic & Hysteroscopic Surgeon,
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Dr. Padmalatha V V
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Dr. Shweta Gupta
Consultant Gynaecologist
SPARSH Hospital, Yeshwanthpur

Dr. Sneha Rajiv
Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist
SPARSH Hospital, Yeshwanthpur

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BBMP to renovate bus shelters; move follows complaints of lack of basic infrastructure

In the first phase, the BBMP has called for a tender to renovate 60 bus shelters by giving them a modern touch. The Traffic Engineering Cell of the BBMP will take up the work, say officials

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

From their location to lack of basic infrastructure, complaints about bus shelters in Bengaluru are endless. Commuters complain that they do not serve even basic necessities, resulting in drivers ignoring them and stopping buses at random spots.

Now, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is planning to renovate 60 bus shelters in Bengaluru and also add another four bus bays with thermo plastic painting.

In the first phase, the BBMP has called for a tender to renovate 60 bus shelters by giving them a modern touch and good infrastructure. The Traffic Engineering Cell (TEC) of the BBMP will take up the work, according to officials.

"After repeated complaints by commuters that buses does not stop near bus stops or bus shelters that lack facilities, we decided to renovate 60 bus shelters and construct four new bus bays in Bengaluru to decongest traffic. We want to offer commuter-friendly bus stops," a senior official from the TEC said.

Even in places where a shelter is available, the bus stop is in a bad condition. FILE PHOTO

It is estimated that only 1,000 bus stops of a total 8,500 have shelters. Even in places where a shelter is available, the bus stop is in a bad condition, putting off potential customers for BMTC. Commuters complain about the lack of bus shelters, and about existing ones being in a dilapidated condition.

Lavanya Shekhar, who travels from J.P. Nagar towards the city centre every day, said, "Buses never stop near the bus shelters. The shelters are in bad condition forcing commuters to stand on the road. If the BBMP is going to renovate, they have to give basic facilities at the bus shelters."

Vishnu Gowda, a commuter from Banashankari, said, "There are other problems, like broken roofs and benches, and dirty platforms and bad maintenance. However, money earned from advertisements should be spent on maintaining and improving the bus shelters."

Volunteers and Bajrang Dal activists rescue 110 head of cattle

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Volunteers and Bajrang Dal activists rescued 110 head of cattle which were being transported in 11 trucks illegally to slaughterhouses on the outskirts of the city on Monday.

Based on a tip-off, a team of volunteers intercepted the trucks at Kyatasandra gate on Tumakuru road and rescued the cattle. The trucks were heading from Bengaluru towards Tumakuru and transporting the cattle in an inhuman way. One of the cows died in the process, while the other cattle at the time of rescue were exhausted, a volunteer alleged.

The rescued cattle were shifted to Tumakuru district cow shelter. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

This is one of the biggest rescue operations carried out in the recent past. The police are now trying to probe about the illegal slaughterhouses which are operational in and around and their network .

The trucks and the drivers were handed over to the Tumakuru town police, while the cattle were shifted to the district cow shelter. The rescue of the cattle turned to be a boon for the 30 male calves housed at Nelamangala goshala. There was an acute shortage of milk for the calves. The volunteers and caretakers were struggling to arrange the milk every day. However, soon after the rescue, the volunteers milked the cows and provided it to the calves.

CM inaugurates four more traffic police stations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday, inaugurated four more traffic police stations, which, according to him, will help in managing the traffic in a better way.

"We have brought several measures to improve traffic management in the city: adding a special commissioner for the traffic, adopting latest technology and installing enforcement cameras and a command centre to monitor and manage seamless traffic. Inauguration of four new traffic stations at Mahadevapura, Talaghattapura, Bellandur and Hennur has been done through restructuring and reorganising the adjacent police stations which had bigger jurisdiction, compared to the other police stations in the city. A few police personnel have been taken from the adjacent police station to be deployed at the new police station as part of the reorganisation and restructuring," said Mr. Bommai.

CM Basavaraj Bommai after inaugurating a police station in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

He also said that the as per the police and people ratio, six more traffic police stations and nine law and order stations are in the pipeline.

According to a senior police officer, the new police stations will play an important role in managing the traffic in the IT hubs, which has seen a drastic increase in the traffic and vehicle populations post the pandemic. "Work from home is over and regular office work has started. The new police stations and its staff have better traffic management and strategies for the local traffic management to cater to the needs at the local level in a more focused way," said an officer.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my client intends to purchase the Schedule property from its Owners: **Smt.Aruna Agarwal** W/o Sri.Pavan Kumar Agarwal and **Smt.Kamal Agarwal** W/o.Sri.Krishna Kumar Agarwal, residing at Flat No.H2 903, SNN Raj Lake View, Phase-2, Ranka Colony Road, Bilekahalli , Bangalore – 560 076.

Apart from the said Owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule Property by the aforesaid Owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within 14 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.959/220/12 (old site No.12)measuring East to West 50ft and North to South 80 ft in all measuring 4000 Sq.ft along with building thereon, situated at Yelenahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk presently within the limits of BBMP Ward No.192 -Begur, and bounded on:-

East by : Property bearing Sy.No.14/2
West by : Property bearing Site No.11
North by : Road
South by : Property bearing Site No.13

Sd/- Goutam Chand S.F
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Sri. **RAGHAVENDRA .C .M, S/o. Late. Chidananda Murthy .M .T and his wife Smt. VINUTHA M. N. have** intending to purchase of the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration with its owner M/s. Valmark Estates LLP, Represented by its Designated Partner Mr. Ratan B Lath, having office at No.133/1, The Residency, 10th Floor, Residency Road, Bangalore- 560 025.

If any persons, banks, financial intuitions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE

Vacant Site No. 34, Panchayath Khata No. 358/83/2/ST.No.34, PID No. 150300201400123312 in Layout Known as "VALMARK ORCHARDS" vide approved Plan No. STRRPA/TP-4/LAO/03/2018-19 dated 13-12-2021, formed in converted land bearing old Sy. No. 83/21, New Sy. No. 83/2 , situated at Rayasandra Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk Add measuring 109.51 Square Mtrs. and bounded on : East by : Site No.33, West by: Road No. 8, North by : Site No. 19, South by : Road No. 2.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B, &
B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR, Advocates,
96, 1 Floor, 1 Main, 4th Cross,
Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068
Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832
BANGALORE, DATE : 07-03-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring it to the NOTICE of General Public, that **Shri. Mariyappa M** aged about 63 years s/o. Gangathimmaiah R/at No. 898/D, 10th Cross Road, Kanteerava Nagar, Nandini Layout, Bangalore – 560 096, declares that he is the full and absolute owner of the Northern Portion of Site bearing New No. 81 (old No. 03) with BBMP PID No. 12-121-81 situated at I Cross H.M. Nayaka Road, Jaimaruthinagar, Bangalore, which is morefully described in the schedule below, having purchased from his previous owner/Chandrakala represented by her GPA Holder/N. Nagarathna under sale deed dated 23/01/2003 registered as Document No. 23398/2002-03 of Book – I stored in C.D. No. 105 in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore.

It is further declared that originally the schedule property was conveyed by virtue of General Power of Attorney and since from the date of purchase i.e., 23/01/2003 M. Mariyappa is in peaceful possession of the schedule property. It is further submitted M. Mariyappa is intending to avail Mortgage Loan from **LIC Housing Finance Ltd Bangalore,** by mortgaging the Property/ Documents with them.

Any person or person/s, Financial Institution/s /Co-operative Society Ltd /BDA /Statutory bodies /etc., having/asserting any right, title or interest/claims or intending to oppose the disbursement of mortgage loan or insists for NOC/etc., in any manner may file their objections to the undersigned within **15 (Fifteen) days** from the Publication of Notice hereof, along with Documentary Proof where after no such claims will be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of Northern Portion of **Site bearing New No. 81** (old No. 03) with BBMP PID No. 12-121-81 carved out of Sy. No. 24/2 Situated at **I Cross H.M. Nayaka Road, Jaimaruthinagar, Bangalore** earlier known as **Laggeri Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** Measuring East to West 30 feet, North to South 15 feet, totally measuring **450 square feet** & bounded on the: -

East by : Road; West by : Private Property; North by : Site No. 04 &; South by : Remaining/ Southern Portion of same site.

Shri. G.N. HARISH, Advocates,
312, Ground Floor, 21st 'A' Cross,
VI Block, Jayanagar, BANGALORE - 560 082.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intends to jointly develop a layout with the present owners Mrs.M.Bharathi & Mr.K.R.Kaviraju which shall consist of plots of various sizes with Farm House constructed thereon in agricultural lands bearing **Sy.no.27, measuring 6 Acres 17 guntas, Sy.No.38/2, measuring 5 Acres 17 Guntas, Sy.No.28/2 (Old.Sy.no.28), measuring 4 Acres, Sy.No.30/4 (Old.Sy.no.30/1), measuring 1 Acre 11 guntas and Sy.No.29/11 (Old.Sy.No.29), measuring 6 Acres 28 guntas, having a total extent of 23 Acres 33 guntas,** situated at Kenchanahalli, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala, which is morefully described hereunder and hereinafter referred to as **Schedule Properties**from its joint owners Mrs.M.Bharathi & Mr.K.R.Kaviraju, residing at No.2819, 12th Cross Road, D Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010, who have represented that they are the absolute lawful owners in possession having purchased the same under various sale deeds the details of which are as hereunder:-

i. Sale Deed dated 04.10.2008, bearing document No.NMG-1-03293/2008-09, stored in C.D.No.NMGD110, registered in the office of Sub-Registrar, Nelamangala, in respect of Sy.No.38/2, measuring 5 Acres 17 Guntas and Sy.No.27, measuring 6 Acres 17 guntas.
ii. Sale Deed dated 04.10.2008, bearing document No.NMG-1-03294/2008-09, stored in C.D.No.NMGD110, registered in the office of Sub-Registrar, Nelamangala, in respect of Sy.No.30/4 (Old.Sy.no.30/1), measuring 1 Acre 11 guntas and Sy.No.29/11 (Old.Sy.No.29/1 & 29/2), measuring 6 Acres 28 guntas.
iii) Sale Deed dated 04.10.2008, bearing document No.NMG-1-03295/2008-09, stored in C.D.No.NMGD110, registered in the office of Sub-Registrar, Nelamangala, in respect of Sy.No.28/2 (Old.Sy.no.28), measuring 4 Acres.

The Owners have represented that the Schedule Properties are not the subject matter of any subsisting or valid mortgage, lien or charge executed in favour of any individual or financial institution and that there are no subsisting agreements for sale or charge on the properties. Further the schedule properties the details of which are mentioned below are not the subject matter of any litigation.

Further if any person, persons or institutions asserting any manner of right, title, interest or claim in the item nos. 1 to 5 of the Schedule Properties should write to the undersigned within **15 DAYS** from the date of issuance of this notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to item nos. 1 to 5 of Schedule Properties or any part thereof, failing which it shall be deemed that the aforesaid owners have a clear and marketable title to the Schedule Properties and that none else has any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties and our client would be liberty to proceed to enter into and complete the intended transaction relating to Schedule Properties.

Any objections and/or claims received after the expiry of the period mentioned above shall neither be entertained nor be binding on our client.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTIES

All that piece and parcel of the immovable properties **situated at Kenchanahalli, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala, having a total extent of 23 Acres 33 guntas**as detailed in the manner set out in the table herein below:

Item nos.	Survey Nos.	Extent Acre	Extent Guntas	Boundaries East	West	North	South
1.	27	6	17	Property belongs to Shri.Goriyappa & Others (Sy.No.29)	Property belongs to B.G.Premakumari	Land in Sy.no.28/2 belongs to the present owners	Property belongs to Shri.Gangaiah (land in Sy.No.26)
2.	38/2	5	17	Property belongs to Shri.Thoppanna (Sy.No.37)	Property belongs to B.Ganganna (Sy.No.41)	Property belongs to Shri.Sidhappa and Thimmaiah (land in Sy.No.39)	Sy.No.28/2 belongs to the present owners and land in Sy.No.29)
3.	Sy.No. 28/2 (Old.Sy. no.28)	4	----	Land in Sy.no.29/2 belongs to present owners	Property belongs to Smt.Lakshmamma	Land in Sy.No.38/2, measuring 5 Acres 17 guntas belongs to to the present owners	Land in Sy.No.27, measuring 6 Acres 17 guntas belongs to the present owners
4.	30/4 (Old.Sy. no.30/1)	1	11	Property belongs to Bettaiah Sy.no.30	Land in Sy.No.29/2 belongs to the present owners	Property belongs to Bylappa Sy.no.32	Property belongs to B.Thammaiahappa Sy.no.30/1
5.	29/11 (Old.Sy. no.29/1 & 29/2)	6	28	Sy.no.30/4	Sy.No.27	Sy.No.29	Sy.No.29

M.P.Jagannatha
For Sundaramurthy & Sundaramurthy
Advocates and Legal Consultants
5/1, Crescent Heights, Cunningham Crescent Road Bangalore-560 052. PhNo.080-41513222/ 41514222,
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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BENGALURU
PEVISION PETITION. No.04/2010-11
Siraj ... PETITIONER
-V/s-
Syed Isac and others ... RESPONDENTS
SUMMONS/NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT NO.5 UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20 (1- A) OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE.
5. Sri S. GOVINDARAJAN, S/o Late Soundappa Chettiar, aged about 83 years, R/at No. 40, 2. Pullikutte Street Gudai, Salem-6. Tamilnadu State ... RESPONDENT No.5
6. Sri S. SHANMUGA SUNDARAM, S/o Late Soundappa Chettiar, aged about 80 years, R/at No. 38, 2nd Pullikutte Street Gudai, Salem-6. Tamilnadu State ... RESPONDENT No.6
7. Sri S. CHANDRASHEKARAN, S/o Late Soundappa Chettiar, aged about 75 years, R/at No.21, 3rd Pullikutte Street Gudai, Salem-6. Tamilnadu State ... RESPONDENT No.7
8. Smt. MAKKABI, W/o Late Baba Sab R/at: Shikaripalya Village Hulimangala Post Anekal Taluk ... RESPONDENT No.8
10. A. LEO CHARLES, S/o Arokaya Swamy, R/at No. 38, 4th Cross 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru-34.
Whereas the petitioner has filed the above revision petition against you and others for the relief of setting aside the orders in RA(A) No.287/2008-09 dated: 20-01-2010, in respect of property bearing Sy.No.34 measuring 3 acres 10 guntas situated at Maragondanahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru District, you are hereby summoned to appear before the court in person or by advocate duly instructed to answer all material question involved in the above case or any person who shall accompanied and able to answer all such questions on 05/04/2023 at 3:00 P.M. before this Hon'ble court.
Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day above mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this court on this 04/03/2023.
By order of the Court, The Deputy Commissioner Bengaluru.
Advocate for petitioner
K.R. RAMESHA REDDY, S.R. VENKATESH
Advocates
No. 272-HIG Villa, 2nd 'B' Cross, Suryanagar Phase-I, Chandapura, Bengaluru-560099.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF LXXIII ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYO HALL BANGALORE (CCH-74)
O.S. No. 25305 of 2022
Plaintiff :
M/s.ICICI Bank Ltd; Having its Regd. Off at Mytree Centre, No.4, 101 Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560068. Reptd. by its Debt Collection Manager: Sri. Pramodh. G, S/o.Gurumallappa. B
Defendant :
Mr. Ravi R,
Aged about 37 Years,
S/o. Ramu, R/at No. 770, Ground Floor, 14th Cross, Kumaraswamy Layout, Near 15F Bus Stop, Kumaraswamy Layout 2nd Stage, JP Nagar, Bangalore- 560 078
WHEREAS the plaintiffs have instituted the above suit against you seeking to recover a sum of **Rs. 4,48,251.26 (Rupees Four Lakhs Forty Eight Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty One Rupees and Twenty Six Paisa Only)** together with future interest at 13.49% p.a, you are hereby summoned to appear before, the LXXIII Addl. City Civil Judge (CCH-74) in person or by pleader on the 14th day of April, 2023 to answer the same, failing which the suit/application will be disposed of ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of this court on 04-03-2023
Bengaluru
Dated :
By Order of the Court
Dy. Registrar,
City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bangalore.
ALTAF HASAN,
Advocate for Plaintiff,
60, G-3, M.M. Complex,
Tasker Town, Chikka Bazaar Road, Shivajinagar,
Bangalore-560051

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, PRIYANKA Amodith, D/o. Justin Edward, R/at No.33,12 2nd Cross, Thyagaraj Layout, Jai Bharath Nagar, Bangalore-560033 have changed my name to Joyella Joyce Edward vide Affidavit dated 06.03.2023 sworn before Notary Y.R.Chandrasekar,Bangalore.

I, RASHMI Balaji W/o K N Balaji, R/at No.2853, Maruthi Naliya, 13th Main, E Block, 2nd Stage, Rajajinagar, Bangalore North-560010, have changed my surname from Rashmi Balaji to Rashmi Srinivasan vide affidavit dated 04-03-2023 before Notary K.S. Giridhar, Bengaluru.

I, AYSHA Sibgath W/o Mohammed Barkath Ullah Shariff residing at No.16, 5th Cross, 17th Main, 5th Block, Koramangala Layout, Bengaluru-560095 Karnataka have changed my name to Ayesha Siddiqua vide affidavit dated 07-03-2023 before Meer Hassan Notary Bengaluru.

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I Arooj Ul Arsh Rafiqi W/O, Parvez Khan R/o # 308, B Block, Slv Defence Gellari,1st Main Road Dawaka Nagar, Kattigenahalli, Bengaluru -560064 have changed my name to Arooj Ul Arsh for all purposes.

I, PANNAGA Mysore Nagendra, R/O. #14, Valmika, 4th Cr, 1st Mn, Navodaya Ngr, JP Ngr 7th Ph, Blr–78, have changed my daughter's name from Aashiritha Satish Bharadwaj to Aashritha Satish Bharadwaj vide afdvt dtd 07/03/23.

I, SHOUKAT Pasha, R/at Ward No.27, Kaiwara Village, Kaiwara Hobali, Chintamani Taluk, Kaiwara, Chikkaballapur 563128 have changed my name as Shoukath Pasha, vide affidavit dtd 07.03.2023 sworn before Notary Ramachandrappa, Bluru

I, MAPALLI Easwarakrishnan Gayathri wife of Sri. Omprakash Balakrishnan, aged about 44 years, Residing at Flat No.408, Samskruti Hoysala Apartments, Doddakannelli, Bengaluru–560035, vide affidavit dated 01st March 2023, at Bengaluru, do here by solemnly affirm and state on oath as follows:– 1. I state that my name is Mapalli Easwarakrishnan Gayathri and I am also called as Gayathri ME. I state that in some records my name is mentioned as Mapalli Easwarakrishnan Gayathri and in some records my name is mentioned as Gayathri M E. Hence I am declaring through this affidavit that my name is Mapalli Easwarakrishnan Gayathri and Gayathri ME. 2. I here with declare that Mapalli Easwarakrishnan Gayathri and Gayathri ME are one and the same. What is stated in the above affidavit is true and correct to best of my knowledge, information and belief and I believe them as true.

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Name[s] of holder[s][and Jt. holder[s]. If any]	Kind of Securities and face value	No. of Securities	Distinctive number[s]
Dattatreya Nambiyar	Equity Shares Rs.10/-	100	9349411 / 9349510
Dattatreya Nambiyar	Equity Shares Rs.10/-	100	32236984 / 32237083

Place: Gokarn
Date: 08/03/2023
Name[s] of holder[s]/ Applicant[s]: Dattatreya Nambiyar

KIA named best airport by ACI's ASQ Arrival Survey Globally for 2022

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A view of the Kempegowda International Airport.

Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) has been recognised as the best airport at ACI's ASQ Arrival Survey Globally for the year 2022, by the Airports Council International (ACI) World.

Bangalore International Airport Ltd. (BIAL) claims that KIA is contributing to India's aviation growth story by facilitating connectivity to non-metro cities and serving as a preferred transfer hub for southern India. Features at the airport include efficient deboarding procedures, streamlined immigration and customs processes, organised baggage claim services, and the availability of infrastructure such as transit hotels and AI-powered assistance robots.

Bengaluru airport emerged as the winner among 15 participating airports worldwide.

Hari Marar, MD and CEO, BIAL said, "We are truly honoured to receive the Best Airport at ACI's ASQ Arrival Survey Globally for the year 2022. This recognition comes as a testament to the hard work, dedication and commitment put forth by our team. We would like to thank the government authorities - the Immigration, Customs & CISF – for their cooperation in enabling seamless arrival process. We would also like to thank our passengers for their unwavering trust and confidence in us. This award further motivates us to continue to strive towards excellence and reinforce our position as one of the leading airports."

Luis Felipe de Oliveira, Director General, ACI World, said, "Selected by passengers, these awards are powered by the airport community, which includes airport employees and a range of other stakeholders. I congratulate the whole team at Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru on their success in the Airport Service Quality Awards." ASQ is the world's leading airport customer experience measurement, which is based on live research via surveys gathered at the airport from travellers and rating their satisfaction on the day of travel. This survey is conducted in over 340 airports worldwide and is considered the industry standard for measuring airport service quality.

Influenza A H3N2 situation not alarming in State: CM

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday said the influenza A H3N2 situation in Karnataka was not alarming, but added that a high-level meeting in the regard would soon be convened and guidelines issued for the entire State. Fielding reporters' queries in this regard, Mr. Bommai, however, said the Centre had asked the State to take necessary precautions. Though wearing of mask had not been made mandatory in the State, Mr. Bommai said he would await recommendations of the high-level meeting of experts in this regard.

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Bescom AEE caught while taking bribe

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Lokayukta officials on Tuesday, trapped an Assistant Executive Engineer of the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) allegedly while accepting a bribe from a villager to issue sanction letter for power connection. The accused, officer Bharath Chauhan, working in Jigani sub-division, was trapped red-handed while accepting ₹28,000 from Shashishekhar of Nanjapura village. Mr. Shashishekhar had applied for a power connection and the officer was supposed to issue sanction letter. To issue the letter he demanded the bribe. Unable to pay, Mr. Shashishekhar approached Lokayukta and filed a complaint.

Based on the complaint, a trap was laid and Bharath Chouhan was arrested. He was booked under Prevention of Corruption Act and taken into custody.

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020.

Dr. K. Shivarama Karantha Layout, Bengaluru

Public Notification

Date: 07.03.2023

ಕಛೇರಿ ಪ್ರತಿ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ
ಕುಮಾರ ಪಾರ್ಕ್ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ದೃಢೀಕರಣ ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ

ಡಾ॥ ಕೆ. ಶಿವರಾಮ ಕಾರಂತ ಬಡಾವಣೆ ರಚನೆಗಾಗಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, (ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ಅಪರ/ಯಲಹಂಕ) ..... ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ... ಹೋಬಳಿ ..... ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದ ಜಮೀನಿಗೆ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸರ್ವೋಚ್ಚ ನ್ಯಾಯಲಯದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಅಫೀಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 7661–7663/2018, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 03.08.2018, ಮಿಸಲೇನಿಯಸ್ ಅಪ್ಲಿಕೇಷನ್ ನಂ. 1614–1616/2019, 1346–1348/2019, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 03.12.2020ರ ಆದೇಶದಂತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಯು.ಡಿ.ಡಿ/553/ಎಂ.ಎನ್.ಎಕ್ಸ್ / 2018, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 17–02–2021 ರಂತೆ ಐತೀರ್ಪು ಅನುಮೋದನೆಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದು, ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ನಅಇ/553/ಬೆಂಭೂಸ್ವಾ/2018 ದಿನಾಂಕ 29.10.2018ರಂತೆ ನೀವು 40:60 ಅನುಪಾತದಡಿ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಶೇ. 40 ರಷ್ಟು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ಭೂಪರಿಹಾರವನ್ನು ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತೀರಿ. ಅದರಂತೆ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟ ಜಮೀನಿಗೆ ಐತೀರ್ಪು ರಚಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪಡಿಸಿದ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಮಗೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

1. ಬೆಂ.ಅ.ಪ್ರಾ / ಉ.ಆ. (ಭೂ.ಸ್ವಾ) ಐತೀರ್ಪು : ..... ದಿನಾಂಕ : .....

2. BDA / Dr.K.S.K.L / LAC : .....

ಕೋಷ್ಟಕ

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ.	ಗ್ರಾಮ	ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ.	ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ	ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ನಿವೇಶನದ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ (ಅಂಕಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಕ್ಷರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)

ಇವರಿಗೆ,
ಭೂಮಾಲೀಕರ ಹೆಸರು ಮತ್ತು ವಿಳಾಸ

.....
.....
.....

ವಿಶೇಷ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು-
ಡಾ॥ ಕೆ. ಶಿವರಾಮ ಕಾರಂತ ಬಡಾವಣೆ
ಬೆಂ.ಅ.ಪ್ರಾ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ವಿ.ಸೂ. : ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಿಂದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳನ್ನು ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಭೂಮಾಲೀಕರು ಈ ದೃಢೀಕರಣ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ಹಾಜರುಪಡಿಸಲು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ.

Dr. K. Shivarama Karanth Layout is being formed under the supervision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and order has been issued to provide Cash Compensation or in the form of Developed Sites in the ratio of 40:60 calculated at 9583 sq. ft. per 1 Acre as Land compensation to Land Owners.

If the Land Owners, between the above choices, have opted for getting Developed Sites as compensation and have submitted request in writing to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, such Land owners will be given certificates regarding the Developed Sites that can be given for the area of land acquired.

Therefore in cases where award is approved and Notices issued under Land Acquisition Act 1894 Section 12(2) Land Owners are requested to express their choice and submit their request to Special Land Acquisition Officer, Dr. K. Shivarama Karanth Layout, Bangalore Development Authority.

Certificates have already been distributed to Land Owners in Kalathammanahalli, Ganigarahalli, Ramagondanahalli, Guni Agrahara, Medi Agrahara Veerasagara, Doddabettahalli and Bylakere villages.

For the remaining Land Owners who have opted for Developed Sites as Land Compensation, certificates will be delivered to their address and on priority Sites will be registered and given to Land Owners after the formation of the layout.

Land losers are requested to provide application seeking compensation either for cash or developed sites as per the scheme within 15.04.2023 to concerned special land Acquisition Officer. Otherwise steps will be taken to deposit the cash as per the awards in the City Civil Court in accordance with law. This is published for the information of the Land Owners.

Sd/-
Deputy Commissioner (LAQ)
B.D.A., Bengaluru.

PM to inaugurate IIT Dharwad campus

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who will be visiting Dharwad on March 12 to inaugurate the new campus of IIT Dharwad, will inaugurate various development works and initiate projects worth ₹5,000 crore.

Speaking to presspersons after inspecting the new campus of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) at Mummigatti on the outskirts of Dharwad on Tuesday, Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Coal and Mines Pralhad Joshi said that the main programme will be the inauguration of the new campus at 2 p.m.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 08	
RISE 06:32	SET 18:29
RISE 19:17	SET 07:03
THURSDAY, MAR. 09	
RISE 06:31	SET 18:29
RISE 20:03	SET 07:39
FRIDAY, MAR. 10	
RISE 06:30	SET 18:29
RISE 20:52	SET 08:14

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	22
Mysuru	33	19
Bengaluru	32	16

Bengaluru Today
32°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be little warm. Night also will be cool and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
33°C A dry weather to continue. Day will be warm. Night will be slight cool with haze and mist.

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THE HINDU
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This year, II PU, Class 10 exams will be easier, says KSEAB official

All arrangements have been made for the smooth conduct of the exams; tight police security will be maintained at all examination centres, says Prasanna Kumar

#THTALKSBENGALURU

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

This year, the II PU and Class 10 examinations will be easier. The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) has modified the blueprint of all the subjects. The questions will be asked according to the blueprint, said Prasanna Kumar, Senior Assistant Director (Examination), KSEAB.

The KSEAB is conducting the II PU and Class 10 exams for the first time. The II PU exams will be held from March 9 to 29 and Class 10 examinations will be held from March 31 to April 15.

Addressing students and parents in a live chat with *The Hindu* on Tuesday, as part of #THtalks-Bengaluru series, he said, "Due to COVID-19 and the lockdown, students are facing learning backwardness since two years and it has impacted their writing skills. Therefore, we have modified the blueprint and question paper and we increased the number of objective type questions up to 20 marks. It will help in writing the examination and scoring," he said.

Pass percentage

Answering questions from students about the blueprint, he said, "The II PU results in Karnataka does not exceed 62% pass percentage every year. At the same time, because of more objective type and MCQs, the Class 12 results are more than 90% in the neighbouring States and in central board institutions. Therefore, we adopted this model to improve the II PU results in the State and modified the blueprint and question paper. Earlier, this method was adopted for Class 10 students in the State."

Study tips for II PU students given by subject experts

PHYSICS: Nagabhushan K.M.
- Numerical problems will be chosen only from four chapters. Even solving two questions will help with clearing the section
- Only one three marker numerical problem will come from nuclear physics chapter
- No numerical calculations in MCQs

CHEMISTRY: Rajiv Naregal
- Be thorough in four mechanisms in organic chemistry
- Learn all the 19 named reactions
- In physical chemistry, learn all the four derivations

BIOLOGY: Divakar
- Diagram-based questions will account for 15–17 marks. They will be selected from chapters 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 16
- Learn labelling of the diagrams properly
- Compulsory five marker questions from chapters 3, 5, 6 and 8

MATHEMATICS: G.M. Ganachari
- Concentrate more on five and three markers
- There will be more internal choices in 10-marker questions this time. Students should take note of that. For both six markers and four markers, there will be two choices (under the 10 marker)
- Students who find calculus difficult, can study matrices, determinance, vectors and around 4–5 chapters in total and still get 50 marks

ACCOUNTANCY: Narayana H.S.
Study from both the textbooks
- Pay more attention to accounting for share capital, financial statements
- There will only be three 12-marker questions, and even if they prepare for six out of the nine prescribed practical-oriented questions, they can score well

KANNADA: Neeraja C.B.
- All one-mark questions after a lesson can be converted into MCQs
- For match the following, refer the index and concentrate on lesson name and the author
- For summary, the first poem and G.S. Nisar Ahmed's poems should be studied

ENGLISH: Bhagyamma
- Ten marks can easily be scored with unseen passage questions. Dialogue writing question can fetch four marks
- For paragraph answers, concentrate on grammar, spellings and pronouns to get full marks
- Only job letter writing will be asked in the examination. Address, job qualifications, date and reference will all be provided in the question itself

Prasanna Kumar, Senior Assistant Director KSEAB.

Arrangements for exam

All necessary arrangements have been made for the smooth conduct of Class 10 and II PU examinations, Mr. Prasanna Kumar said, adding that tight police security will be maintained at all examination centres, CCTV camera surveillance will be deployed at the main gates and corridors of all the centres.

All types of electronic devices, including mobile phones, smart watches, earphones are prohibited in the examination centres. The use of mobile phones is prohibited for officers and staff involved in security work and examination duty in examination centres.

Only the superintendent of the examination centre will be allowed to use basic mobile phones without camera facility.

The wall clock system will be made available for students to keep track of time at the centres, and 5% grace marks will be given for any two subjects for II PU and 10% grace marks will be given for any three subjects for Class 10 students, he added.

COVID-19 protocols

Asked about COVID-19 protocols and precautions against influenza, he said, "There are no instructions from the Health department about COVID-19. Therefore, this year, there are no COVID-19 protocols in the examination centres. If the health department will issue any precautionary measures about influenza, we will follow."

Dress code

About the demand to allow hijab in the examination centres, he further said, "Students should follow the dress code prescribed by the educational institutions. They can wear school or college uniforms in the examination centres and they must also follow the directions of the Supreme Court and the government on the dress code."

Three years after first COVID-19 case hit State, focus shifts to preparedness for future pandemics

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Three years after COVID-19 hit Karnataka on March 8, 2020, the focus is now on preparedness for future pandemics. The State is working on setting up a Health Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC) at Arogya Soudha.

Karnataka's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) had, in December last year, recommended that the State should establish a Centre for Pandemic Preparedness (CPP) to help predict and prevent future outbreaks through stringent surveillance.

Command and control

To be funded by the Union Health Ministry, the HEOC will be a command and control facility where designated emergency management functions will be performed. "We have submitted a proposal to the Union Ministry in this regard and have also appointed a nodal officer for the Centre," State Health Commissioner Randeep D. told *The Hindu*.

In the last three years, as many as 40,269 people have lost their lives while over 40.74 lakh people have been infected by the different variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Over 46% of the total caseload and over 42% of the total fatalities are from Bengaluru Urban. The country's first death was reported from Kalaburagi on March 12.

Different waves

While hospitals saw an acute shortage of testing and diagnosis infrastructure through the first wave (March-October 2020), the second wave (December 2020-November 2021), largely driven by Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2, caught the health authorities unawares. The State's health infrastructure was overwhelmed as the rise in caseload resulted in huge demand for hospital beds. Several patients died at home due to the non-availability of ICU beds and timely care. With many healthcare staff getting infected, lack of manpower also became a major issue.

However, the Omicron-driven third wave (January-March 2022 onwards) was milder. Although the surge in cases was huge, the severity was low and the demand for hospital beds and oxygen was negligible. The situation was under control as a major chunk of the population had been vaccinated with at least one dose by then.

Subsequently, in July-August 2022, there was a small spike but the situation was not serious as case numbers only fluctuated and have been at a low ebb since then. However, from March 1, 2023, onwards hospitalisations are gradually increasing in Bengaluru. From 12 hospitalisations on March 1, the number has gone up to 31 on Tuesday.

Karnataka started its combat against the pandemic by converting the government-run Victoria Hospital into a dedicated COVID facility. Subsequently, almost all secondary and tertiary care public health facilities were turned into COVID hospitals.

TAC's role

Karnataka has been one of the few States in the country to have taken the assistance of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and an expert committee in pandemic management on a regular and continual basis. From its first meeting in April 2020, the TAC has held 196 meetings till date.

TAC chairman M.K. Sudarshan said the State is better prepared now. "Testing labs and critical care facilities, including oxygenated beds have been ramped up exponentially. Tele-ICUs and better clinical management protocols helped save many lives. Although the absolute numbers were high in the third wave, the death count was low as we had good treatment protocols in place after better understanding of the virus," he said.

Text & Context
A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (March 8, Wednesday), the following explainer is available:

- Even with 'moderate emissions', India's heat is set to get worse **bit.ly/heatrisingindia**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Government of Karnataka
Public Works Department, Udupi Division, Udupi. (PIU)

Website: https://www.kpwd.gov.in Email: eepwdudp02@gmail.com
No. EE/PWD/UDN/NIT/81/2022-23/AE-2 Dated 04.03.2023

Short term Tender Notice

The Tender for the following works are invited through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (Viz. www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in)

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender (in Rs)	EMD (in Rs)	Last date for submission of tender in Eprocurement	Eligible tenderer
1	Reconstruction of Garbhagudi and Teertha mantapa in Sri Mahalingeshwara Mahaganapathi temple at Padubidri, Kaup Taluk, Udupi District (160994) (3rd Call)	₹ 2,49,72,083.00	₹ 3,74,600.00	18.03.2023	CLASS-II and above K-PWD

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department
Udupi Division, Udupi.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, IPC. Division No.1, Kalaburgi

No.EE/KNNL/IPCD-1/tender/ PB-5,6 & 10/ 2022-23/ 2557 Date : 06.03.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH -E-PROCUREMENT)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL Bangalore the Executive Engineer, KNNL IPC DIVN No,1 Kalaburagi, invites the Percentage Basis tender of Lower Mullamari and Gandorinala Projects under 4701, Head of works for the year 2022-23. Indent No. **36264, 36318 (Others)** in Single cover system total 02 No's and Indent No. **36267, 36262, 36329 & 35113 (call-3)** in Two cover system. 04 No's of works.The details are as below.
Events & Dates
1) Amount put to tender : **Minimum Rs 40.98 Lakhs Maximum Rs 322.00 Lakhs**, 2) EMD Amount : Minimum Rs 81,970.00 Maximum Rs 4,80,000.00, 3) Access to e-Tender document: **08.03.2023 at 11.00 AM to 15.03.2023 at 5.00 PM,** 4) Queries if any and Pre bid meeting at Division office : **13.03.2023 at 11.00 AM,** 5) The last date & Time for receipt of tenders : **15.03.2023 upto 5.00 PM**, 6) Opening of bid (Single cover system) & Opening of technical bid (Two cover System) : **17.03.2023 at 11.30 AM** in the office of the Executive Engineer KNNL IPC Div No 1 Kalaburagi, 7) Opening of Financial bid (two cover System) **21.03.2023** (After approval of technical bid)
Further additional information can be had by visiting website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and the office of the under signed during office hours (Phone No 08472-220590). All other terms and conditions as per original tender notification.

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
DIPR/Kalaburagi/1441/MC&A/2022-23 KNNL IPC Division-1, KALABURAGI

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Horticulture Superintendent,
Mahadevapura Zone, Mahadevapura, Bengaluru - 560016

No: HS/MDP/TENDER/PR/05/2022-23 Date: 07-03-2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Mahadevapura Zone), invites item rate tenders from eligible Contractors/firms registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railway/MES/ National Highway or any State Government organizations and lisense holders from labour department for the following works:

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Apprx. amount of Work (in Rs.)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Providing Security Services to Parks pertaining to K.R.Pura constituency.	**4208181.60**	**105205/-**
2	Providing Security Services to Parks pertaining to Mahadevapura constituency.	**4208181.60**	**105205/-**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 15-03-2023. 2)** Tenders must be Submitted online through e-Procurement Portal **on or before 17-03-2023. 3)** Technical Bids will be Opened on **20-03-2023, 11.00 AM onwards. 4)** Financial Bids will be Opened on **21-03-2023 (If possible)**. Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Mahadevapura Zone), BBMP.

ಪುರಸಭೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬಂಕಾಪುರ

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ :– ಪು.ಸ.ಬಂ/ತಾಂ.ವಿ/ವಹಿ– /2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ :01–03–2023

ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಸನ್ 2022–23 ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ವಿಶೇಷ ಅನುದಾನ, ಸನ್ 2022–23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅನುದಾನದ ಮತ್ತು ಸನ್ 2021–22ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರಿನ ಅನುದಾನದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 1999 ನಿಯಮ 2000ರಂತೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಏಕ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೊಕೊಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಮತ್ತು ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೋರಮೆಂಟ ಪೊರ್ಟನಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ **ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–1** ಮತ್ತು **ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–3** ನಿಬಂದನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಟೆಂಡರ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಇಲಾಖಾ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ **http://eproc.karnatak.gov.in** ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರ್ಮಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವುದು ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು ವೇಬ್‌ಸೈಟ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ.

(ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್)

2022–23 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ವಿಶೇಷ ಅನುದಾನ

Sl. No	INDENT No	Estimate Value in Lakhs	EMD Amount	Period of completion	Reservation
1	DMA/2022-23/BR/WORK_ INDENT137753 (coll-2)	84.36	168728.00	180 Days	General
2	DMA/2022-23/BR/WORK_ INDENT140311 (coll-2)	84.37	168750.00	180 Days	General
3	DMA/2022-23/BR/WORK_ INDENT140329 (coll-2)	12.63	15790.00	90 Days	ST
	2022–23 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅನುದಾನ				
4	DMA/2022-23/WS/WORK_ INDENT134594 (coll-2)	2.50	6250.00	30 Days	General
	2021–22 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರಿನ ಅನುದಾನ				
5	DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_ INDENT133551 (coll-2)	3.00	7500.00	30 Days	General
		186.86			

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಶಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಹಾಗೂ **www.bankapurtown.mrc.gov.in** ನಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ

ಸಹಿ/–(ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಯಪ್ಪ ಹುಣಸಗಿ)
ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ಪುರಸಭೆ ಬಂಕಾಪುರ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಸವಣೂರು
ಉಪವಿಭಾಗ ಸವಣೂರು

ಸಹಿ/– (ಶ್ರೀ ಶಿವಪ್ಪ ಎ)
ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ,
ಪುರಸಭೆ ಬಂಕಾಪುರ

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಹಾವೇರಿ/603/2022–23/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ

Government of Karnataka
(URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT)
District Urban Development Cell, Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Chamarajanagar District, Chamarajanagar
Email : dudcchamarajanagar@gmail.com Ph. No : 08226-223761

No. DUDC/CMSMTDP-4/GPT/WS/CR/218/2021-22 Date : 28.02.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Call-2)
(Through e-Procurement portal only)

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Chamarajanagar District, Chamarajanagar invites e-procurement full time tender from eligible contractors under KW-3 document under Chief Minister's Amruth Nagarothana Phase-4 Project. Work details as follows. Name of Work : Construction and improvement of Water supply works in Gundlupet TMC limits of Chamarajanagar District (DMA/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT143704/Call-2) Estimate Cost :84.60 Lakhs, (excluding GST) EMD Amount : 2.00 lakhs Period of Completion : 06 Months. Last date for submission of bids for the tender is : 13.03.2023 at 5.00 P.M., Date of opening of tenders technical bids: 14.03.2023 at 5.00 P.M. & Date of opening of Financial bids : Informed to technically qualified Contractors, Interested contractors shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender. Contractors can download the tender documents from e-procurement platform (www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in). Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** EMD and tender processing fees shall also be paid electronically For further details go through tender document or contact. Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, DC Office, Chamarajanagar during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಚಾ.ನಗರ–629/2022–23 District Urban Development Cell, Chamarajanagar

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL,
FIC Division No-3, Almatti D.S. Phone no:08426-282134,
Email:eeficd3lmt@gmail.com

No.KBJNL/FIC/D-3/PB/TND/2022-23/844 Dated:04.03.2023

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement)

On behalf of Administrator, CADA.UKP Bheemarayanagudi, the Executive Engineer, KBJNL FIC Division No.3 Almatti invites double cover system tender on percentage basis from KPWD Class-I Contractors for the works of **Indent No.2514 Rs. 79.87 Lakhs.** The contractors have to deposit EMD in e-cash and to submit the documents in two covers. Contractors can obtaine the details and Schedule-B through e-tender website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/eportal/index.seam (Krishna Command Area Development Authority). While submitting the tender, the tender fee as per the e-portal is tobe remitted online. Access to e-tender document and submission of completed documents from **09.03.2023 to 17.03.2023 up to 5.00 PM (17.00 hours).**
Techncial bid opening of Tender on **20.03.2023** at 11.00 AM and Financial bid opening of Tender on **24.03.2023** at 11.00 AM for Further information can be had from the undersigned during office hours on Telephone No.08426 295509

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, FIC Division No.3, Almatti.
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/1003/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23

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OPPORTUNITIES

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT • JOBS • TECHNOLOGY

Two trends that promote women's participation in the workforce

Breaking the glass ceiling with hybrid work model

As far as increasing women's participation in the workforce goes, the hybrid work model is just what the doctor ordered. Released by IWG, "Empowering Women in the Hybrid Workplace Report" has data corroborating this.

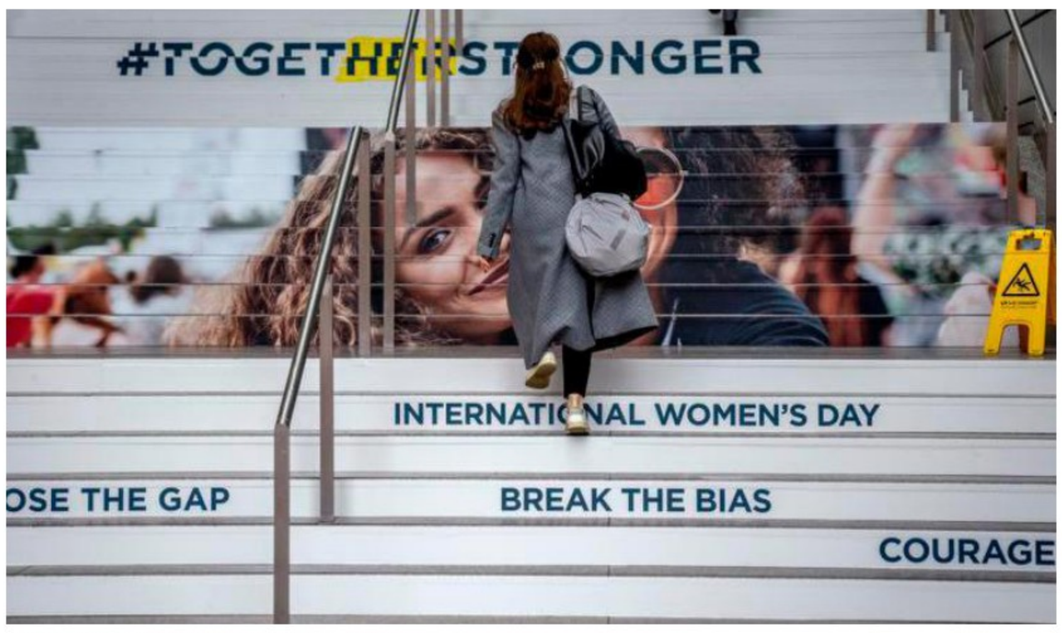
Here are the salient features of the report:

– Hybrid work has become a 'non-negotiable' for women, with 72% of those surveyed saying they would look for another role if their employer no longer offered a hybrid schedule.

– Nearly 90% believe the flexibility of hybrid working 'serves as an equaliser in the workplace."

– 53% of women surveyed applied for a more senior role within their organisation, with the majority reporting hybrid working as the reason they were able to do so.

– Women report tangible impact on career growth as a result of the hybrid work model making them more efficient (58%) and increasing their visibility with senior leadership (38%).



AP PHOTO USED FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY

Blue and grey collar work: Women storm male bastions

When it comes to certain jobs, bias against women is built into everyday language. The phrase "odd-job man" serves as an apt illustration, as "odd jobs" loosely translates to "blue collar work".

WorkIndia, a blue and grey-collar hiring platform, reports data that suggest this bias is weakening.

– Laundry work has witnessed a 1075% spurt in inquiries from women seeking employment, compared to data from 2021.

– Enquiries for labour jobs have seen a 215% increase; and those for jobs as physical trainer, 201%.

– Jobs that have been traditionally male-dominated – machine operator, lab technician and hardware engineer – have seen a sharp increase in applications from women.

– Verticals like automobiles, warehouses, manufacturing and surprisingly tourism have however showed negative growth, compared to data from 2021.

– Fields like hospitality, tailoring and beauty care have been witnessing the usually expected percentage of enquiries from women.

ENGG./PRODN./TECH.

WANTED ENGINEERS
Marine Piling / Jack up Barge
Underwater pilecap / Structures
Exp in Bridges / Flyovers / ROB
Qualification: 5 -15yrs with DCE / B.E Civil
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GENERAL

GSSS GEETHA SHISHU SHIKSHANA SANGHA(R)
INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY FOR WOMEN
KRS Road, Metagalli, Mysuru – 570016
APPOINTMENT NOTIFICATION

Position	Department	Qualification & Experience
Professor / Associate Professor	ECE/CSE/ISE/CSE (AI&ML)/ MBA (Marketing)	As per AICTE Norms
Assistant Professor	ECE/CSE/ISE/CSE (AI&ML)/ EEE/Physics/Chemistry/MBA	

- Salary: Based on credentials.
- Accommodation will be provided for the post of Professor and Associate Professor.
- Apply with color photo and copy of all certificates to Hon. Secretary before 20/03/2023.

Dr. M. Jagannatha Shenoi, President — Smt. Vanaja B. Pandit, Hon. Secretary
www.geethashishu.in

RITES LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Shikhar, Plot No.1, Sector-29, Gurgaon – 122001
CIN No: L74899DL1974GOI007227
Requires qualified professionals in following position(s)/ discipline(s) through Walk-in Interview at Ahmedabad:

VC No.	Post	No. of vacancies
59/23	Planning and Scheduling Expert -System	1
60/23	Quantity Estimator-System	1
61/23	Quality Assurance & Quality Control Expert-System	1
62/23	Architect	1
63/23	Section Engineer - Rolling Stock Testing & Commissioning	1
64/23	Section Engineer - System Integrated Testing & Commissioning	1

For details regarding Position, pay scale, qualification, age, date & venue, selection process etc., candidates may see the detailed advertisement posted on RITES website **www.rites.com** under Career Section.

GENERAL

SOCIETY FOR APPLIED MICROWAVE ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING & RESEARCH (SAMEER)
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
IIT Campus, Powai, Mumbai 400 076
Advt No. NIELIT/SAMEER/2023/2
INVITES APPLICATION FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS

Sl. No	Post	Total Vacancy	Reserved for PWDs (Horizontal Reservation)	Qualification, Age & Other Eligibility Conditions
1.	**Scientist – 'C'** Group 'A' (S&T) Pay Level: 11 (Rs. 67,700 – 2,08,700)	3 (UR-3)	–	Please refer to detailed Advertisement available at **https://www.calicut.nielit.in/sameer**
2.	**Scientist – 'B'** Group 'A' (S&T) Pay Level: 10 (Rs. 56,100 – 1,77,500)	18 (UR-8, SC-1, ST-2, OBC (NCL)-5, EWS,2)	Reserved for PWD (Hard of Hearing) - 1	

Candidates are advised to apply through the portal at ***https://www.calicut.nielit.in/sameer***
for further information including Eligibility, Age Limit, Reservations, Mode of Recruitment etc., refer Detailed Advertisement
Detailed Advertisement is also available at
(a) **https://www.nielit.gov.in** (b) **https://www.meity.gov.in** (c) **https:www.sameer.gov.in** (d) **http://ccdisabilities.nic.in**
Applications for the above posts will be received only in online mode.
Application Portal will be open from 09.03.2023 10:00 A.M.
CLOSING DATE OF APPLICATION : 08.04.2023 5:30 P.M.

GENERAL

GAYATRI VIDYA PARISHAD COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
(Autonomous)
Approved by AICTE & Affiliated to Andhra University,Visakhapatnam from 2022-23
(Affiliated to JNTUK, Kakinada upto 2021-22)
Re-accredited by NAAC with "A" Grade with a CGPA of 3.47/4.00
Madhurawada, Visakhapatnam - 530 048. Ph: 0891-2739507
RECRUITMENT OF FACULTY
Applications are invited from eligible candidates (as per AICTE norms) for faculty positions
CSE : Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor
ECE : Assistant Professor
Salary commensurates with the qualification and experience.
Assistant Professor : **Rs.4.20 lakhs** to **8.40 lakhs** per annum
Associate Professor : Minimum **Rs.12.90 lakhs** per annum
Professor : Minimum **Rs.14.20 lakhs** per annum
The management reserves the right to fill all or any of the vacancies or otherwise at their discretion.
Interested candidates may **APPLY ONLINE** through Institutional website **www.gvpce.ac.in** on or before **15.03.2023**
PRINCIPAL

DHANALAKSHMI SRINIVASAN
INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES AND HOSPITAL
Thuraiyur Road, Perambalur - 621 212. Tamil Nadu
FACULTY WANTED
Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the following positions
Professor | Associate Professor | Assistant Professor | Senior Resident
PRE & PARA CLINICAL
Anatomy | Physiology | Biochemistry | Pharmacology | Pathology | Microbiology
Forensic Medicine | Community Medicine
CLINICAL
General Medicine | Paediatrics | Psychiatry | Dermatology
Respiratory Medicine | General Surgery | Orthopaedics | ENT
Ophthalmology | Obstetrics and Gynaecology | Radiology
Eligibility: As per NMC Norms | Salary: Negotiable
Apply within a week
hrddsimsh@dsgroupmail.com
70944 57373, 70944 58383

URGENT JOB ALERT
HIRING **PROFESSOR/ ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR** IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY
QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE AS PER NMC NORMS
AMRITA VISHWA VIDYAPEETHAM
MAIL YOUR CV TO psychiatry@aims.amrita.edu

ADHIYAMAAN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
(Autonomous)
HOSUR, Krishnagiri Dt. T.N.
www.adhiyamaan.ac.in
Applications are invited for the following posts
DIRECTOR
Adhiyamaan Educational & Research Institutions-Hosur
Qualification: M.E., Ph.D., Experience: Good exposure in academic, Research & Development, Quality & Accreditation
PROFESSORS, ASSOCIATE PROFS, ASST. PROFS
CSE-IT-ECE-EEE- Artificial Intelligence - Mech, Aero, Civil, Biomedical, Chemical, Biotech– Architecture– MBA-MCA-Maths–English-Physics- Chemistry
Eligibility & Salary: As per norms. Higher Salary may be considered to the eminent & visionary having outstanding academic and research record. Apply within 10 days with detailed CV.
Send the resume with all testimonials to aerirecruitment2023@gmail.com
PRINCIPAL

XIME
Xavier Institute of Management & Entrepreneurship
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Special Position: Faculty in
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Proven Research Performance expected.
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Apply with Bio-data within 7 days to:
secretary@xime.org
XIME Electronics City, Phase- II, Bangalore-100 Tel: 080 28528597 / 98
Mob:9845280734 Website: www.xime.org

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Please contact,
sivakumar.m@thehindu.co.in or
Ph: 98415 85969.

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(A Mini Ratna Category-1 CPSE under Ministry of Education)
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Tel. No. (120) 4156001-003 (EPABX)
Websites: www.edcilindia.co.in / http://edcilteacherrecruitment.com
E-mail: helpsecondment@edcil.co.in
RECRUITMENT OF PGT TEACHERS FOR THE SCHOOLS UNDER ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
Royal Government of Bhutan invites applications from qualified Indian Teachers for the following posts:
PGT Mathematics | **PGT Chemistry** | **PGT Computer Science / IT / ICT**
Eligibility Criteria & Remuneration: Refer EdCIL's website: **www.edcilindia.co.in/http://edcilteacherrecruitment.com**
Apply online from **4th March 2023** to **18th March 2023** in the following website: **http://edcilteacherrecruitment.com**
The dates of interview will be available on or after **30th March 2023** at above websites.
Dates of interview: Candidates are required to check EdCIL website **(www.edcilindia.co.in / http://edcilteacherrecruitment.com).**
For more details e-mail to: Project Manager (Bhutan Recruitment) at the above address

SRI SIDDHARTHA MEDICAL COLLEGE, HOSPITAL - TUMKUR.
SRI SIDDHARTHA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, T. Begur, Nelamangala Tq.
Web: www.ssmctumkur.org www.ssimrc.in
E-mail: info@ssmctumkur.org ssimstbegur@gmail.com
Mobile : 9845311362, 9880024966
REQUIRED
The following Administrative and Hospital staff required at both SSMC Tumkur & SSIMS, T Begur.

Sl. No.	Administration & Hospital Staff	
1	Principal	
2	Medical Superintendent	
3	Nursing Superintendent	
4	Casualty Medical Officer (CMO)	
5	Resident Medical Officer (RMO)	
6	Public Relation Officer (PRO)	
7	Anatomy	Professor
8	Physiology	
9	Biochemistry	
10	Microbiology	
11	General Medicine	Associate Professor
12	Pediatrics	
13	Respiratory Medicine	
14	General Surgery	
15	Orthopaedics	
16	ENT	
17	Ophthalmology	Assistant Professor
18	OBG	
19	Anaesthesiology	
20	Respiratory Medicine	

Interested candidates can apply in person to the college address or email given, on or before 20th March 2023. Salaries will be commensurate with the experience & qualification.
Sd/- Chancellor, SSAHE, Tumkur.

Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala R&D Institute of Science and Technology
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Ph.D. in Engineering from leading National Institutions like IIT / IISc / NIT etc., with not less than 10 years of Teaching and Research experience. Salary will not be a constraint for the right candidate.
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The candidates with Ph.D. qualification only need to apply and will be given attractive salary with additional incentives and seed fund for research purposes.
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Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr.Sagunthala R&D Institute of Science and Technology (Deemed to be University)
42, Avadi Vel Tech Road, Avadi, Chennai – 600062, Tamil Nadu

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ರಾಜೀವ್‌ಗಾಂಧಿ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಉದ್ಯಾನವನ, ಹುಣಸೂರು
Ph: 08222-252041 Email: dirnagarahole@aranya.gov.in
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ಬಿ2/ಟಿ.ಸಿ.ಎಫ್/ಪಡಿತರ/ಸಿಆರ್–77/2022–23 ದಿ: 01.03.2023

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

2023–24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಾಗರಹೊಳೆ ಹುಲಿ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಿತ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ವಿವಿಧ ವನ್ಯಜೀವಿ ವಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ 54 ಕಳ್ಳಬೇಟೆ ಶಿಬಿರ ಹಾಗೂ 03 ಕ್ಷಿಪ್ರ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಡೆ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ವರ್ಗದವರಿಗೆ 01.04.2023 ರಿಂದ 31.03.2024ರ ವರೆಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಪಡಿತರ ಸಾಮಾಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇಚ್ಛೆಯುಳ್ಳ ಸರಬರಾಜು ದಾರರು ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸರಬರಾಜು ವಿವರ: ಕಳ್ಳಬೇಟೆ ಶಿಬಿರ/ಕ್ಷಿಪ್ರ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಡೆ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಪಡಿತರ ಸಾಮಾಗ್ರಿಗಳ ಸರಬರಾಜು **ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ):** 56.908

● ಮೇಲಿನ ಅನುಸೂಚಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸುವ ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾಗುವ ಅನುದಾನದ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ● ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿ: 10.03.2023 ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿ: 17.03.2023

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ನಾಗರಹೊಳೆ ಹುಲಿ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಿತ ಪ್ರದೇಶ, ಹುಣಸೂರು.

DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/1142/2022-23

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director (Education), N.R. Square, Bengaluru-02

No.: S.A.D.(E)/P.R/1503/2022-23 Date: 07.03.2023

NOTIFICATION FOR QUOTATION

Quotation is invited to obtain current market rates from reputed suppliers / shopkeepers for supply of brown and blue color canvas shoes and socks to the students studing in the Palike's Schools / Colleges for the year 2023-24.

Sl. No.	Details of Schools/ Colleges	Name of the Items	Qty.	Specification of Shoes and Socks	Rates (incl. GST)
1	Kindergartens Schools	Brown color canvas shoes and socks	5466		
2	Primary schools	Brown color canvas shoes and socks	3906		
3	High schools	Brown color canvas shoes and socks	8305		
4	Pre University Colleges	Blue color canvas shoes and socks	6682		
		Total	**24359**		

(1) Quotation including transportation charges and G.S.T.
(2) Last date for submission of sealed quotation **13.03.2023** upto **4:00 p.m.**
(3) Opening of quotations is on **14.03.2023** at **4:30 p.m.** Interested can participate
(For further details contact this Phone Number - 080 - 22975728)

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director (Education), BBMP

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South), BBMP, South Zone, 9th Cross, 9th Main, Jayanagar, 2nd Blcok, Bengaluru - 560011.

No: SADH(S)TENDER/17/2022-23 Date:07.03.2023

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Single Cover System) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South Zone), (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person / Agencies / Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department.

(Standard Tender Document - KW-2)

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Estimated Amount (in Rs.)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Supply of Horticulture Inputs and Other Horticulture Materials for Jayanagara & Padmanabhanagara Nursery and Parks	**50,00,000/-**	**1,00,000/-**
2	Supply of Horticulture Inputs and Other Horticulture Materials for Vijayanagara & Basavanagudi Nursery and Parks	**50,00,000/-**	**1,00,000/-**
3	Drilling of borewell, Electrification of Pump sets, Pipeline and other works in Basavanagudi Constituency Parks	**30,00,000/-**	**60,000/-**
4	Drilling of borewell, Electrification of Pump sets, Pipeline and other works in BTM Layout Constituency Parks	**30,00,000/-**	**60,000/-**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 08-03-2023. 2)** Date of Tender Closing: **15-03-2023 at 4.00 PM. 3)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **16-03-2023 at 4.30 PM.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South Zone), BBMP.

Government of Karnataka
Zilla Panchayat Shivamogga
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Panchayat Raj Engineering Divison, Sagara.
No.: EE/PRE/DS/Hosanagara/Sagara/Soraba/Shikaripura/KW-1,2&3/AE/JE/2022-23/2343 Date: 17.02.2023

Tender Notice (Through e-Procurement)

From this Division to quote Itemwar rates for the works approved under 5054 Rain Damage Programme, Viveka Scheme and M.G.N.R.G. Scheme for the year 2021-22 on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Itemwar Tenders are invited through e-procurement, as per the Rules of the Department in Standard Document for Procurement of Work K/W-1,2&3 forms from eligible contractors registered in Panchayat Raj Engineering/Public Works Department and Registered in e-procurement System. Contractors remitting Form Fee and E.M.D. through filling of Challan in e-payment (Credit Card/Direct Debit/NEFT & OTC) should submit two days earlier to the last date.

1) Date for downloading Tender Form: from 03.03.2023 to 13.03.2023. **2)** Last date to submit Tender Form: 13.03.2023, 17:00:00 **3)** Date of opening the bid: 14.03.2023, 17:01:00

For details of e-procurement tender contact the office of the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Sagara and can be viewed in e-procurement website (www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in) and can be downloaded. Further information can be obtained from the concerned case worker of this office on phone No. 08183-226064 during office hours or contact hp helpdesk phone No.: 080-25501216, 25501227.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, P.R.E.Division, Sagara

DIPR/smg/NO:41/03/mca/22-23/2052

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

No:KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT13549 Dated: 02.03.2023

ABSTRACT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two cover system) (Through e-procurement portal only)

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed companies / agencies through e-Tendering portal for the **work of "Providing, Replacing, Rotation, Strengthening of 5, 6, 7 & 8 Dry Fly Ash Conveying Line at RTPS".** Interested bidders may submit the bids through e-Tendering **Website: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Last date for submission of completed tender document: 09.03.2023 @ 16:00 hrs. Date of opening of Technical Bid: 10.03.2023 @ 16:30 hrs. Date of opening of price bids of pre-qualified tenderers: 11.03.2023 @ 11:00 hrs. Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (AHP-2) RTPS/KPCL,** Shaktinagar-584170, Raichur Dist., Mobile No: 94495 96551

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client, intends to purchase the under-mentioned Schedule Property from **Smt. Nagarathnamma,** Aged about 72 years, W/o. Sri. G. Anjanappa, Residing at # 316/3, 4th Cross, Near Shanimahathma Temple, Jalahalli Village, Bangalore – 560 013, who have purchased the same from Sri. T. Marirangaiah & Others, under a Sale Deed dated 03.09.2011, registered as Document No. DBP-1-04060-2011-12, Stored in CD No. DBPD241 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Doddaballapura. Any person/s, financial Institution/s, predecessors-in-title, having any claim, right, title or interest over the Schedule property or any part thereof in any manner or against the owner of the schedule property or objecting to the sale in favour of my client should contact the undersigned in writing **within 7 days** (Seven Days) of the issuance of this Public Notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights, after which period my clients shall proceed further to complete the sale transaction and any claim or objection thereafter will not be binding over the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Dry Agricultural Land bearing **Sy. No. 81/4,** measuring **24 Guntas** (carved out of 1 Acre 9 Guntas allotted to Marirangaiah in Old Sy. No. 81/3) **of** Mallohalli Village, Madhure Hobli Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District and bounded on the; East by : Road and Land in Sy. No. 68/2 belonging to Nagarathnamma, West by : Land in Sy. No. 79 belonging to Ramaiah. North by :Land in Sy. No. 81/3 belonging to Thimmarayappa, South by : Remaining land in old Sy. No. 81/3 measuring 25 Guntas presently bearing New Sy. No. 81/5 belonging to Charan Rajarathnam & Minitha V. Raj.

Sd/- Sri Vinay Paul T.K., Advocate,
'U & V Legal', Chambers: No. 86, FF2, 'Gokul Towers',
Place:Bengaluru, M.S.R. Road, Gokula, Bangalore - 560 054.
Dated :07.03.2023 Cell-09448058394, Email:vinaypaultk@gmail.com

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director, Education, Head Office, BBMP, N. R. Square, Bangalore - 560 002.

No.:SAD(E)/PR/1504/2022-23 Date:07.03.2023

RATE QUOTATION NOTIFICATION

The Senior Assistant Director (Education) invites Rate Quotations of the current market rates from the respective suppliers / shopkeepers for providing the following materials to the students attending the BBMP Schools / Colleges for the year 2023-24.

Sl. No.	Details of School / Colleges	Particulars	Quantity (Nos.)
1	Shishuvihara Schools	Black Shoes & Socks	5466
2	Primary Schools	Black Shoes & Socks	3906
3	High Schools	Black Shoes & Socks	8305
		Total	**17677**

1) The Quotations should be inclusive of freight charges and GST. **2)** Last Date for Submission of Sealed Rate Quotations: **13.03.2023 upto 4.00 p.m.** Sealed quotations will be opened on **14.03.2023 at 4.30 p.m.** Interested bidders can participate in the bid. further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned or contact 080-22975728.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director (Education).

GOVERNMEN OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
(E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com ; Tel / Fax:- 0680-2404287)
At:-Ambapua, Po:-Engineering School Near Income Tax Office, Berhampur-760011

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Bid Identification No. Online Tender/80-2022-23/BPR

Identification No.	Name of work	No. of Works	Approx. Estimated Cost (In lakh)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
Online Tender / 80-2022-23/ BPR	Bridge Works (BSY) for 2022-23	05 Nos	From Rs. 194.16 lakhs to Rs.791.47 Lakhs	"B" Class, "A"Class & "Special " Class as applicable	11 (Eleven) 12 (Twelve) 18 (Eighteen) & 24 (Twenty Four) Calendar Month as provided

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender online for bidding	
		From	To
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Berhampur.	Online Tender / 80-2022-23 / BPR	10.03.2023 at 10.00 A.M.	27.03.2023 upto 3.00 P.M.

(i) EMD / Bid Security, Cost of Bid document is to be transferred through Online as per the procedure mentioned in the DTCN.
(ii) Non-submission of the information/documents through online by the bidder as per the items mentioned in the eligible criteria of the DTCN will also liable for rejection of his tender.
Further details & Corrigendum if any can be seen from the website : - www.tendersodisha.gov.in

O-1951 : Sd/- P.K.Jena, **Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Berhampur**
OIPR-25071/11/0125/2223

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & BASIN MANAGER,
TEL BASIN, BHAWANIPATNA, DIST. KALAHANDI
Telephone No: 06670-230209, E-mail Id :- cetelbasinbhp@gmail.com

Online Tenders are invited from Super Class or Equivalent Grade Bidders on EPC Contract

Tender Reference No.CE&BM-TEL-29/2022-23
Bid Identification No. CETEL-TID-09/2022-23
DETAILED NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of Work	Class/EMD/Tender Fee/Period of completion
"Implementation of Under Ground Pipeline (UGPL) Irrigation to the Command Area of Ong Irrigation Extension Project Subarnapur, Odisha on EPC-Turn Key Basis."	(4) Class of Contractor - Super Class or equivalent Grade Bidders. (5) EMD- 1% of the Bid cost amounting to Rs.1,37,45,000/-. (6) The approximate value of work put to tender is Rs.137,45,36,913/- (4) Tender Fee-Rs.10,000/-to be transferred online (Non Refundable)

A.	PERIOD OF COMPLETION	24 (Twenty Four) Calendar months.
B.	DATE & TIME AVAILABILITY OF BID DOCUMENT IN THE PORTAL	Dt.09.03.2023 from 10.00 AM to Dt.30.03.2023 upto 5.00 PM
C.	LAST DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS	Dt.30.03.2023 up to 5.00 PM
D.	PLACE OF SALE, RECEIPT OF BIDS	Online through e-procurement, Govt. of Odisha.
E.	TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF TECHNICAL BID	Dt. 31.03.2023 at 11.00 AM
F.	PLACE OF OPENING OF BIDS	Office of the Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna, Kalahandi.
G.	Further details can be seen from e-procurement portal "https://tendersodisha.gov.in"	

Chief Engineer & Basin Manager,
Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna
A-1227: OIPR-32317/11/0034/2223

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION BIDAR

NO:EE/PWD//Dvn/Bdr/ JE-3/ 5054/2022-23 /5037 Date: 02.03.2023

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDERS

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, PWD Divn. Bidar invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers, for KPWD/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT, 166392 Amount for the work is Minmum Rs. 400.00 Lakhs Tender documents may be downloaded from the e.procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka Viz. http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in .

Tenders must be submitted through e-procurement portal on or before 16.00 hours up to dt: 10.03.2023 Tenders will be opened on dt: 13.03.2023 Further any other information can be seen from the e-procurement portal or can be had from the undersigned.

DIPR/Bidar/513/MC&A/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division Bidar.

TUNGABHADRA BOARD: TB DAM
e-Procurement Notice IFB No.198/2022-23 Dt.07.03.2023

Short Term Tender for the work of **"Hiring of private vehicles for the year 2023-24 in HW & HLC Division, TB Dam and LLC Division, Bellary for the period from April 2023 to February 2024"** is invited through `e-Procurement'

Bid Document downloading Start Date & Time:	**08.03.2023 at 11.00 AM**
Bid Document downloading End Date & Time :	**15.03.2023 at 3.00 PM**
Bid Submission End Date & Time :	**15.03.2023 at 5.30 PM**
Date of opening of Commercial Stage:	**16.03.2023 at 11.00 AM**

Further details can be seen
@ https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in

Ph: 08394 – 259114
Fax 08394 - 259167

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer**
I.B, TB Board, TB Dam

ನಿರಾಶ್ರಿತರ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ತುಮಕೂರು.
ಅಜ್ಜಗೊಂಡನಹಳ್ಳಿ ರಾ.ಹೆ.–04 ಕೋರಾ ಹತ್ತಿರ
ತುಮಕೂರು–572102
E-mail-npktumkur@gmail.com Po:0816-2970033
ಸಂ:ನಿಪಕೇತು/ಆಹಾರ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್–02/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02.03.2023

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ: ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಸಾಮಾಗ್ರಿಗಳ ಖರೀದಿ. **ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕ್ರಮಾಂಕ:**ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ನಿಪಕೇತು/ಆಹಾರ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್/02/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: **02.03.2023** ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ.96.00** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ. ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) **1.92**. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಲಕೋಟೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ : **16.03.2023 ಸಂಜೆ 03.00 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ.** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ವೇಳೆ: **17.03.2023 ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.00ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.** ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ವೇಳೆ : **18.03.2023** ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 12.00ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ: ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕರು, ನಿರಾಶ್ರಿತ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ಅಜ್ಜಗೊಂಡನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ರಾ.ಹೆ.4 ಕೋರಾ ಹತ್ತಿರ, ತುಮಕೂರು–572128 ವೆಬಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕರು,
ನಿರಾಶ್ರಿತರ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ

DIPR/TUM/1063/KSMCA/2022-23

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA NIYAMITHA
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, V.C. Division
Mandya - 571401, Mandya Dist. Ph. : 08232-225046

Short Term Tender Notification No. 16/2022-23 Dated : 03-03-2023

SINGLE COVER & TWO COVER SYSTEM THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT

Item-wise rate tenders were Invited in, CNNL, Mysore / Bangalore, through e-Procurement. Total Number of works are 07, From Sl no 01 to 06 works are in KW-2 format for PWD Class III and above and Sl no 07 is in KW-3 format for PWD Class III and above, Estimate cost is from - Rs. 45.00 lakhs to Rs. 75.00 lakhs. Stipulated time to complete the Work is read as from Sl no 01 to 07 is 60 days (including monsoon), E.M.D. should be paid through E-payment. The remaining conditions has mentioned in the original Notification. **Date of access in e-portal : As per e-portal, Date of pre bid meeting : As per e-portal, Last date of submission of tenders through on-line : As per e-Portal, Date of opening of Technical bid : As per e-portal, Date of opening of Financial bid : As per e-portal.**

For additional Information log on to **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** and contact on official Land-line number 08232-225046 During office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Ltd.
V C Division, Mandya

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No:506/BGM/SEE/Tr.(W&M)/C/EE(O)/AEE-2/22-23/F-50/10338-49 Dt:06.03.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites bids against this office TENDER INDENT No: **(1) KPTCL//2022-23/TL/WORK_INDENT10445 and (2) KPTCL/2022-23/TL/WORK_INDENT10448 for (1)** Conversion of existing 110kV SC line with SC MS towers by DC GI towers from 220kV ATHANI sub-station to 110kV Athani sub-station (from loc No. 125 to 133) for a distance of 2.011 kms and stringing 110kV second circuit from 220kV Athani sub-station to location 8 (location No. 1 to location 8) for a distance of 1.725 Kms, and Construction of 110kV Terminal Bay at existing 110/11kV sub-station Athani in Athani Taluk, Belagavi district, including supply of equipments/ materials, erection, civil works, testing and commissioning on Total Turn Key Basis. And **(2)** Replacement of 1x10MVA, 110/11KV transformer by 1x20MVA, 110/11KV transformer without switchgears at 110KV Itnal S/S in Raibag Taluk, Belagavi District on Partial Turnkey Basis coming under the jurisdiction of Superintending Engineer, Ele, Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Belagavi.

The detailed notification regarding the works called through the **"E-procurement"** mode can be obtained by logging on to E-procurement's website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 4.00 p.m. on 08.03.2023**. Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.)
Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Nehru Nagar, Belagavi-590010. Phone: 0831-2950835/2950836

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಕನೀನಿ ಎಂ.ಬಿ.ಸಿ ವಿಭಾಗ ನಂ. 1, ಗದ್ದನಕೇರಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್:ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.ಕಚೇರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂ:08354–297046,
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: eeknnlbgk@gmail.com

ಸಂ:ಕನೀನಿನಿ/ವಿ–1/ಪಿಬಿ/ಟಿಎನ್‌ಡಿ/2022–23/2093 ದಿನಾಂಕ:06.03.2023

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಶೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (4701 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ) (CALL-2) (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಮಾನ್ಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ಎಂ.ಬಿ.ಸಿ ವಿಭಾಗ ನಂ. 1, ಗದ್ದನಕೇರಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್ : ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999–2000 ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ act 2000ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–3&4 ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಶೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಪ್ರತಿಶತ ದರಗಳ (Percentage Rate) ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ (ಎರಡು ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ) ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ.

Work Indent No. 36048/CALL-2 & 36050/CALL-2 (2 works)
ಟೆಂಡರಿಗೆ ಇಡಲಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಮೊತ್ತ (ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ ಯೊಂದಿಗೆ):ರೂ. 79.97 ಲಕ್ಷ & ರೂ. 249.91 ಲಕ್ಷ, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ. 1,60,000/– & ರೂ 3,75,000/–

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತು ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ನಡೆಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:13.03.2023, 17.00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, 2)ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ದಿ:14.03.2023 ರಂದು 16.00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. 3)ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ:15.03.2023, 16.30 ಘಂಟೆ, 4)ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ

ಇತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ವೈಬಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರು,
ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ಎಂ.ಬಿ.ಸಿ ವಿಭಾಗ ನಂ.1, ಗದ್ದನಕೇರಿ, ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್:ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.

DIPR/BGK/RO-NO-964/KSMCA/2022-23

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
O/o The Chief General Manager (Tech), 1st Floor, UNI Building, Thimmaiah Road, Millers Tank Bund Area, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru - 560 052

No: CGM (TECH)/BSWML/TEND/09/2022-23 Date: 07-03-2023

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

1. The Chief General Manager (Tech), on behalf of Managing Director, BSWML, invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the establishment of processing facilities detailed in the table below. The tenderers may submit tenders for works given in the table through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (viz https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in). The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract.
2. Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-Procurement website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in under login for Contractors: After login to Contractors, please scroll down to the right-side bottom to see List of Tenders, please click there to find the details of RFP and download copy of the tender. The tender document can be downloaded in the portal from 10-03-2023. Only Interested Service Provider who wishes to participate should remit online transaction fee for tender after registering in the portal. The transaction fee is non-refundable.
3. Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal **on or before 16.00 hours on 23-03-2023** and the opening of tenders will be as per the e-procurement portal guidelines.
4. Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Estimate Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (Rs. in Lakhs)	Cost of Tender Document	Contract Period
1.	Lump Sum, Turnkey, Fixed Price, No variation Tender based on Tenderer's Own Design for the work of **"Construction of civil structures and Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Operation and Maintenance for a period of 60 months of Incineration and Rendering Plant of 1 T Capacity of each batch for 4 such batches each using Incineration and rendering process mechanism".**	1170.34	15.00	As per e-Portal	09 Months
1A	**Schedule-A:** The construction of Civil items of the processing plant for Incineration and Rendering (Under Shubra Bengaluru Scheme Est. cost: 421.57 Lakhs)				
1B	**Schedule-B:** Supply, Installation, Commissioning of Electro Mechanical components and Operation & Maintenance for a period of 60 months of Incineration and Rendering Plant of 1 T Capacity of each batch for 4 such batches (4 batches of incineration & 4 batches of rendering) using Incineration and rendering process mechanism". (Under **Amruth Nagarotthana** Scheme Est. cost: 748.77 Lakhs)				

NOTE:
1. Pre bid meeting will be held on **15.03.2023 at 15:00 hours** in office of the Chief General Manager (Tech) BSWML, 1st Floor, UNI Buidling, Thimmaiah Road, Bengaluru-560052.
2. Technical qualification documents along with necessary information/documents must be uploaded to the e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** as per tender document **on or before 16:00 hours on 23.03.2023** and First Folder containing the Technical bid will be opened through e-portal only on **24.03.2023 after 16:30 hours** at the stipulated venue, in the presence of the Tenderers or their authorized representatives who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the tenders as specified, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
3. The Employer shall not be liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the Tenderers of any tender updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the Tenderers. It is the Tenderer's responsibility to verify the e-procurement portal for the latest information related to the tender, E-mail address of the Helpdesk is **hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com**. E-procurement portal help desk telephone numbers are: 080-22371090/22373788. The tenderer is required to ensure browser capability of the computer well in advance to the last date and time for receipt of the tenders. The employer shall not be responsible for non-accessibility of e-procurement portal due to internet connectivity issues and technical glitches.
4. Any corrigendum/addendum will be published in the E-Procurement portal only.
5. GST shall be paid separately if applicable.

Time Schedule/Calendar of Events: (1) Last Date & Time for uploading Qualification Documents on **23.03.2023 upto 16:00 Hrs. (2)** Pre Bid Meeting on **15.03.2022 at 15.00 Hrs. (3)** Opening of Tender on **24.03.2023 at 16.30 Hrs.**

Sd/-
Chief General Manager (Tech),
BSWML

DIPR/CP/5129/AAA/22-23

Government of Karnataka
Public Works Department, Udupi Division, Udupi. (PIU)

Website: https://www.kpwd.gov.in Email: eepwdudp02@gmail.com

No. EE/PWD/UDN/NIT/82/2022-23/AE-2 **Dated 07.03.2023**

Short term Tender Notice

The Tender for the following works are invited through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (Viz. www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in)

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender (in Rs)	EMD (in Rs)	Last date for submission of tender in Eprocurement	Eligible tenderer
1	Improvement and Maintenance of Mudradi- Seethanadi - Brahmavara Road from km. 12.00 to 12.50 in Udupi Constituency (From km. 12.275 to 13.45) (Upgraded SH Road)	₹ 93,96,675.00	₹ 1,88,000.00	15.03.2023	Class - III and above K-PWD

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department
Udupi Division, Udupi.

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH E-TENDER
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

e-bids are invited from the eligible bidders for thefollowing work as per the procedure of CMWSSB under two cover system conforming to the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998 and Rules 2000.

Sl. No.	Name of work and Tender No.	Bid Security	Prebid meeting Date	e-Bid Submission closing Date	e-Bid Opening Date
1.	Providing comprehensive underground sewerage scheme to Uthandi (Division-197) (Old Division 199) Area-XV in the expanded Chennai City. CNT/SEW/NCB/AMRUT 2.0 / 008 /2022-23	Rs.13.20 Lakhs	28.03.2023 at 11:30 a.m.	18.04.2023 upto 3.00 P.M.	19.04.2023 after 3.30 P.M.
2.	Providing comprehensive underground sewerage scheme to Kottivakkam, Palavakkam&Neelankarai (Division 183, 185 & 192), Area- XIV & XVin Chennai City. CNT/SEW/NCB/AMRUT 2.0/009 /2022-23	Rs.63.80 Lakhs	29.03.2023 at 11:30 a.m.	18.04.2023 upto 3.00 P.M.	19.04.2023 after 3.30 P.M.
3	ProvidingcomprehensiveWater Supply scheme to Neelankarai (Division 192 & 193 (Part)), Area – XV in the expanded Chennai City. CNT/WSS/NCB/AMRUT&Singara Chennai/001A/ 2022-23	Rs.11.30 Lakhs	28.03.2023 at 12.30 p.m.	18.04.2023 upto 3.00 P.M.	19.04.2023 after 3.30 P.M.
4	EMD by online transfer only through NIC Portal. The tenderer shall submit scanned copy of online transaction statement towards EMD as part of Bid document.				
5	Availability of Bid documents and e-bid submission is permitted through tender portal / website:**www.tntenders.gov.in** For all other details refer Bid documents in the website from **16.03.2023** for Sl.Nos. (1) & (3) and for Sl.No.(2) from 17.03.2023.				

DIPR/1529/Tender/2023 **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, (Contracts & Monitoring)**

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

Office of the Director of Tourism, No.3, 4th Floor, Embassy Icon, Infantry Road, Bangalore – 560 001.
E-mail:director@karnatakatourism.org | Tel: 080-22352525. | Fax:080-22352626.

No: DT/EXB/68/2022-23 **Date:06.03.2023**

NOTICE INVITING FOR TENDER
(Through E-Procurement Only)

SELECTION OF AN AGENCY FOR NATONAL EVENTS MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISING NATIONAL ROADSHOWS AGENCY OF KARNATAKA TOURISM

Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka (DoT) intends to appoint an agency for Domestic events Management and Organising Domestic Roadshows of Karnataka Tourism by inviting proposal from competent agency(ies) having similar experience in accordance with the Request for Proposal (RFP) Document. The Bidding Document may be downloaded from the E-Procurement website **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from **06.03.2023 onwards**. Bidders may submit their Proposals through e-procurement mode on www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in website.

A pre-Proposal meeting will be held on **14.03.2023 at 3:00 PM**. at the below mentioned address of the Director, Tourism. The last date and time for submission of Proposals (Proposal Due Date) is **20.03.2023 upto 5:00 PM**. The Tender Inviting Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders to be received without assigning any reasons thereof. All subsequent notifications, changes and amendments will be posted only on the aforesaid e-procurement website. In case of any queries/clarifications on the project/documents please contact DoT

Sd/- Joint Director (P&P) and Tender Inviting Authority
Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka
No.3, 4th Floor, Embassy Icon, Infantry Road, Bangalore, -560001
Tel: 080-22352525/22352424 Fax:080-22352626 E-mail: tourismkarnatakapublicity@gamil.com

DIPR/CP/JA/1701/2022-23

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our clients, (1) Sri. B. Nagaraju, aged about 67 years, S/o late M. Bettaiah, Residing at No. 747, 14th Main, MEI Layout, Hesraghatta Main Road, Bengaluru-560073, (2) Sri. B. Venugopal, Aged about 71 years, S/o late M. Bettaiah, Residing at No. 747, 14th Main, MEI Layout, Hesraghatta Main Road, Bengaluru-560073, (3) Sri. N. Lokesh, aged about 38 years, S/o Sri. Nagaraju, "Ammaji Residency" 8th Cross, Kalyananagara, Bengaluru-560057, (4) Sri. G. Venkatesh, aged about 47 years, S/o late Giriyappa, Residing at No. 10, "Balaji Nilaya" Vidyanagara, ariswamappa Garden, T.Dasarahalli, Bengaluru-560057 have filed Original Suit in No: 533/2023 on the file of Hon'ble City Civil and Sessions Judge at Bangalore (CCH-42) in connection to the properties bearing Sy. No. 9/9 (Old Sy.No.9), measuring 0-38 guntas excluding 2 guntas kharab, situated at Myadarahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk converted by the order of the Deputy Commissioner dated: 19-11-2011 in No. A.L.N.(N)CR-101/11-12 with Assessment Khatha No. 9/9-04. And immovable property bearing Sy. No. 9/8 (Old Sy.No.9), measuring 0-08 guntas excluding 2 guntas kharab, situated at Myadarahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk converted by the order of the Deputy Commissioner dated: 19-11-2011 in No: A.L.N.(N)CR-101/11-12 with Assessment Khatha No. 9/8-03.

The same are more fully explained in Schedule -A & B hereunder against (1) Smt Shanthamma, (2) Smt Sumana (3) Smt Sushmitha and (4) Adithi Developers. Wherein Hon'ble Court was pleased grant ad-interim exparte injection order against the defendants restrained them from alienating the schedule property or portion of the schedule property in manner.

Any transactions would become infructuous and of no effect. The aforesaid persons are attempting to deal with the general public, in respect of Schedule A & B properties. That, in respect of such illegal acts, our clients reserve their right to initiate appropriate Criminal and Civil proceedings against them. Hence, we hereby caution to general public that not to transact or deal in any manner with said (1) Smt Shanthamma, (2) Smt Sumana (3) Smt Sushmitha and (4) Adithi Developers, in connection with the aforesaid properties or document, since, they have no independent right, interest in any manner over the aforesaid property. That in spite of the public notice if anybody transact it shall be void and it does not bind on our clients and our clients are not liable in any way. If anybody comes across such malicious transaction/s,please bring it to our notice (addressed below) within seven days. Otherwise, we will initiate appropriate proceedings before the competent Court of law, and if it is so dealt, it will be at their own risk, being not binding upon our client.

SCHEDULE-A PROPERTY:

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Sy. No. 9/9 (Old Sy.No.9), measuring 0-38 guntas excluding 2 guntas kharab, situated at Myadarahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk converted by the order of the Deputy Commissioner dated: 19-11-2011 in No. A.L.N.(N)CR-101/11-12 with Assessment Khatha No. 9/9-04 and bounded on the:
East by: Land bearing Sy. No.9/8,
West by: Land bearing Sy.No.9/10 and 30 Ft Road,
North by:40 Ft Road and
South by: Private Property.

SCHEDULE B PROPERTY:

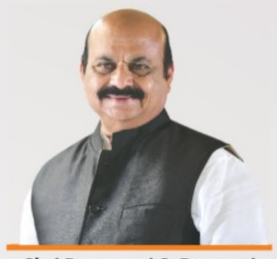
All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Sy. No. 9/8 (Old Sy.No.9), measuring 0-08 guntas excluding 2 guntas kharab, situated at Myadarahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk converted by the order of the Deputy Commissioner dated: 19-11-2011 in No. A.L.N.(N)CR-101/11-12 with Assessment Khatha No. 9/8-03 and bounded on the:
East by: Sy. No.9/17, (Old Sy. No. 9/7)
West by: Land bearing Sy.No.9/7,
North by: Road and
South by : Private Property.

Contact Address
VK & Co, Advocates
No: 2, Old No: 3852/A,4th Cross, B-Block, 2nd Main, Subramanyanagara, Bangalore -560021 Mobile No: 9448759314

SITK TRANSFORMING KARNATAKA

STARTUP KARNATAKA

STATE INSTITUTE FOR TRANSFORMATION OF KARNATAKA (SITK)



Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Pivoting Sustainable Development through Innovation and Incubation

INVITING EXPERTS/ INNOVATORS/ CHANGEMAKERS FOR BUILDING NAVA KARNATAKA @2047

CHANGE MAKERS

Problem Statements / Area:

Funding: Grant-in-aid up to INR 50 lakhs for Implementation of the solution based on the requirement.

Timeline for Application submission: SITK changemaker program Application will be open from 8th March, 2023 to 6th April 2023

Eligibility Criteria: Any individual/Startup/company/organization having innovative solutions for the problem statements with prior piloting/implementation experience in Govt. ecosystem/Social enterprises

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Government of Karnataka
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Email: sitk.gok@gmail.com Tel: +91-80-22032623 M: +91 90088 10889

Sri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department
Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

MGNREGS - Self Reliance of Women

Equal pay for equal work

Women Headed Households are eligible for individual benefits under the scheme

"Women Employment Empowerment" campaign to increase women participation in the scheme to 60%

In the FY 2022-23, Rs.1,888 crore wage amount is disbursed to the bank accounts of 26 lakh women working in MGNREGS

Preference for women in selection of Kayaka Bandu (Mates). Total 62 thousand women mates were selected. An incentive of Rs 5.00 per person-day will be given to women mates

50% concession in the quantity of work for Pregnant above 6 months and Lactating Women up to 6 months

10% concession in the quantity of work for women in worksites with more than 60% women participation

Establishment of Creches to encourage women to work in the scheme

Raising of 58 lakh saplings in nurseries through SHGs for economic empowerment of women

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Engagement of all-women "Grama Kayaka Mitra" to motivate women participation

Production of building materials required for MGNREGS works through Women SHGs

Assistance to gender minorities for self-reliance through unskilled work and individual benefits

"Rural women have been given equal opportunity under MGNREGS. Women participation has been prioritized by adopting many measures to achieve social and economic empowerment of women"

To cherish & follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom-is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

Wear mask | Follow physical distance | Maintain hand hygiene

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Rural Development Commissionerate

To demand work, call the toll-free helpline
1800-4258-666

CMYK M BG-BGE

From Page One

BJP MLA gets interim anticipatory bail

The court adjourned further hearing on the petition till March 17 to enable the Lokayukta police to file objection to the petition. The investigating officer should release the MLA, in the event of his arrest, on the MLA furnishing a bond for ₹5 lakh and two sureties for the like sum, the court said, while directing the accused MLA not to enter the office of the Karnataka Soaps and Detergent Limited (KSDL), to cooperate for the investigation, and not to make any attempt to destroy evidence.

The MLA was the chairperson of KSDL and his son was caught taking a bribe of ₹40 lakh allegedly on behalf of the MLA, in the office of the KSDL in Bengaluru.

Earlier, the MLA's advocate contended that there is no material in the complaint about demand for bribe made by the MLA for award of tender for supply of chemical product by the complainant. There was no question of payment of bribe as the tender was already awarded in favour of the complainant, argued his advocate while pointing out that the MLA, who was the Chairman of KSDL, was not part of the tender authority of the KSDL. It was also contended that there is no material to show that the complainant handed over the bribe to Prashanth Madal on the instruction of the MLA.

However, advocate for the Lokayukta police sought time to file a statement of objection opposing grant of anticipatory bail, while pointing out that there is a clear allegation against the MLA that it was on his instruction that the bribe amount was paid to his son.

Hours after HC relief, 'absconding' MLA makes appearance in procession

BJP sources say the party State unit has forwarded information on the Madal episode to the central disciplinary unit and is awaiting its call

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI/BENGALURU

Embarrassing the party yet again, ruling BJP MLA Madal Virupakshappa, who had gone incommunicado after Lokayukta named him as accused no. 1 in the bribery case, appeared in his native village, Channeshpura, in Channagiri taluk of Davangere district on Tuesday in a procession organised by his supporters to welcome him. This was hours after after he was granted interim anticipatory bail by the Karnataka High Court.

As the procession triggered an angry public reaction, the party bosses too reportedly took the MLA to task. Party State president Nalin Kumar Kateel himself called up the MLA and expressed displeasure. However, Mr. Virupakshappa reportedly said that it was his supporters who organized the procession and that he had nothing to do with it.

A video grab of BJP MLA Madal Virupakshappa being welcomed by supporters at Channeshpura, in Channagiri taluk of Davangere district on Tuesday.

Speaking to pressperson later, Mr. Virupakshappa termed the whole incident a 'conspiracy' against his family. He claimed that cash of ₹40 lakh was 'planted' in the place where his son Prashanth Madal was caught red-handed taking a bribe, allegedly on behalf of the MLA.

On rumoured plans by the BJP to expel him from the party, he said that he would come clean and would again get a BJP membership after getting absolved of all the charges.

Virupakshappa said that it was not the right time to talk about his future political plans. He said the party was like mother to him, and had helped him become an MLA. "I will abide by the party's decision. I have accepted the party's decision to expel me," he said.

Meanwhile, BJP leaders clarified in Bengaluru that he was yet to be expelled and that the party State unit had forwarded information related to the entire episode to their central leaders including the Central Disciplinary Unit. "We are waiting for the Central leaders to take a call in this regard," sources said.

Speaking to mediapersons in Bengaluru, Mr. Kateel reiterated that the BJP would not tolerate corruption, but questioned the Congress' two-hour bandh. "The State president of the party that is targeting us over corruption had actually been lodged in Tihar jail. Why did he not resign as MLA despite this?"

'Natural for areca farming households to have crores of cash'

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

BJP MLA Madal Virupakshappa on Tuesday surprised everyone by saying that it is 'natural' for households in Channagiri taluk, which is the land of arecanut farming, to have crores of cash in their households. He made the statement while defending the ₹8 crore in cash seized from his house.

"My family owns 125 acres of arecanut farm, two crusher units and arecanut business," he said, claiming that the money seized was accounted for.

Two ex-MLAs, former Mysuru Mayor join Congress

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former MLAs G.N. Nanjundaswamy (Kollegal) and Manohar Ainapur (Vijayapura city) joined the Congress in the presence of KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar and Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah at the party office here on Tuesday.

Former Mysuru Mayor Purushottam, former general secretary of Karnataka Bahujan Samaj Party, too joined the party.

Mr. Shivakumar said more BJP leaders would join the party in the coming days and the latest survey indicated that Congress would win over 140 seats in the legislative Assembly elections in the State.

Retired IAS officer Lakshminarayan joins BJP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Retired IAS officer M.D. Lakshminarayan has now entered politics by joining the BJP on Tuesday.

Mr. Lakshminarayan was welcomed into the party by BJP State President Nalin Kumar Kateel with a party flag at a programme held at the party State office in Bengaluru along with a few other leaders who quit the Congress and Janata Dal (Secular) to join the BJP.

Veerashaiva-Lingayat political narrative at the forefront in the run-up to Assembly polls

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

With Assembly elections inching closer in Karnataka, Veerashaiva-Lingayat political narrative is at the forefront again. With the Lingayat strongman B.S. Yediyurappa retiring from electoral politics, the BJP is seen trying to protect its crucial support base, while the Congress and Janata Dal (Secular) are seeking a bigger share of the community's votes.

The parties are often seen exchanging barbs over perceived 'insult' meted out to the community's leaders by their rivals.

BJP leaders continue to harp on Congress insulting former Chief Ministers the late S. Nijalingappa and the late B. Veerendra Patil, while Congress hits back saying that the BJP insulted Mr. Yediyurappa by forcing him to step down from the post of Chief Minister.

These exchanges are testimony to the importance of the community in Karnataka's politics, with nine Veerashaiva-Lingayats having been Chief Ministers, including incumbent Basavaraj Bommai.

A file photo of former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa with Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Bengaluru. Without credible second-rung Lingayat leaders, the BJP is trying to utilise Mr. Yediyurappa's goodwill among voters in Karnataka.

Multiple sources in Congress believe that the optics of the 'unceremonious exit' of Mr. Yediyurappa, the community's tallest leader currently, and mishandling of the Panchamasali movement for 2-A status in OBC reservation, could help the party regain some lost ground. "The community leaders believe that despite a Lingayat helming the BJP government, not much has been done for them. Increasingly, the community believes that the Mr. Bommai-led government is being indirectly managed by the RSS," a Congress Lingayat leader said.

HDK's statement creates flutter

Political leaders across parties acknowledged that Janata Dal (Secular) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy's statement about BJP being keen to make a leader from the Brahmin community as the next chief minister has resonated within the community. BJP is seen trying to go the extra mile not to be seen as a 'Brahmin party'.

While 58 Veerashaiva-Lingayats won in 2018, the Veerashaiva-Lingayat Mahasabha claims that the community's votes are crucial in about 70 other seats, including reserved constituencies.

In the 2018 elections, the community is believed to have played a role in the Congress's poor performance, as a result of Siddaramaiah supporting the demand for a separate religion tag for Lingayats, which was perceived as an attempt to 'divide' the community. While some say the issue is now 'dead', with KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar apologising for the move, Congress detractors say that Mr. Siddaramaiah is still seen with suspicion.

Demand for tickets

Meanwhile, the Lingayat faction within the Congress has petitioned senior leaders to give tickets to Lingayats in 70 constituencies that were identified based on community presence, candidate and economic clout. This includes many constituencies in south Karnataka.

"Lingayats play a crucial role here, though the popular narrative is of Vokkaliga dominance in south Karnataka. After leaders such as B. Rajshekarmurthy, Gurupadaswamy, Benki Mahadev and M.V. Rajashekaran, Old Mysore region has not seen the emergence of a new leadership from the community, either in BJP or Congress," sources said, making a case for more tickets to Lingayats.

BJP extends olive branch to BSY

The ruling BJP, which kept Mr. Yediyurappa at bay till recently, has brought him to the forefront in their campaign, and the outreach has come from Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself. Without credible second-rung Lingayat leaders, the party is trying to utilise Mr. Yediyurappa's goodwill among the voters. The visibility of Mr. Yediyurappa is seen as an acknowledgement by the central leadership that he alone could bring Veerashaiva-Lingayat sub-castes together, something Mr. Bommai has not been able to achieve.

A few incumbent MLAs will not get ticket, says Yediyurappa

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

Former Chief Minister and BJP parliamentary board member B.S. Yediyurappa said that four to six incumbent MLAs of the party would not get the party ticket in the imminent Assembly elections in the State.

"About four to six incumbent MLAs of the party will not get the ticket to contest in the Assembly elections. Barring them, all incumbent MLAs would get the ticket. The first list of the candidates will shortly be released," Mr. Yediyurappa said during an interaction with mediapersons in Kalaburagi on Tuesday.

'Doors are open'

Brushing aside the possibility of BJP Ministers V. Somanna and K.C. Narayana Gowda quitting the party, Mr. Yediyurappa said that no leader from the BJP would quit. "The doors of BJP are open for everyone. Those who want to leave the party can go out and those who want to join the party can come in," he said.

The veteran leader exuded confidence in his party retaining power in the State by winning in more than 140 segments in the upcoming Assembly elections. "Lackluster response to the Congress' Praja Dhwani Yatra is an indicator of its eroding base. In contrast, the BJP's Vijay Sankalp Yatra has evoked an overwhelming response," he said.

PM at Davangere

Mr. Yediyurappa said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi would participate in the massive public meeting to be organised in Davangere on March 25 to mark the culmination of the ongoing Vijaya Sankalp Yatra.

Replying to a query, Mr. Yediyurappa asserted that Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai would be the BJP's face in the coming Assembly elections.

"The decision on the next Chief Ministerial candidate will be decided at the party's legislative meeting post-Assembly elections," he said.

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, DHARWAD
Office of the Registrar, Krishinagar, Dharwad-5,
No.R/Rectt/Advt.61/2023 Date: 07.03.2023

NOTIFICATION

Sub: Recruitment to the backlog posts of Teachers in the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad.
Ref: University Notification No.R/Rectt/Advt.61/2023 dated 03.03.2023
The backlog posts of Teachers in the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad are advertised for recruitment vide University Notification referred above. The said notification along with all necessary information is accessible in the University's official website (www.uasd.edu). Interested candidates may refer the University website for further details.

Dipr/Dwd/1218/2022-23/DeshpandePublicity Sd/- REGISTRAR

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No: SEE/SMG/O&MC/AEE(C)/2022-23/16853-58 Date: 04.03.2023

Tender Nofication (Through e-procurement only)

MESCOM invites tenders through e-Procurement mode only from the Registered KPWD contractors having EPF, ESI, GST and Labour Department Registration for Civil works bearing Indent No: 1885, 1903, 1904, 1914 & 1915 for CALL-3.
For detailed information and to participate in the tender through e-procurement mode please access the tendering website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on **08.03.2023 or after 11.00 AM.** Any other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer, (Elecl)., O&M Circle, Shimoga
For Power Related Complaints and Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, M.I. & G.W.D. DIVISION, KALABURAGI www.midnglb@rediffmail.com, Phone : 08472 -220196
IFT No. EE/MI &GWD D/KAL/PB-3/2022-23/ 5131 DATED : 04-03-2023

-: SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (IFT KW-4) :-

1) Detail of work: THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, M.I. & G.W.D. DIVISION, KALABURAGI INVITES TENDER FROM THE ELIGIBLE TENDERERS FOR 4702 A.P.B. WORKS FOR THE YEAR 2022-23. 2) Amount of Estimate : **Max. Rs. 237,70,286.46 Min. Rs. 98,46,537.17,** 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Class-1, 4) Details of Tender application amount and EMD amount : Tender Fee As per e-portal E.M.D. Max. Rs. 3,57,000.00 Min. Rs. 1,97,000.00, 5) Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications: **13-03-2023 Upto 11.00 Hours**, 6) Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders : **14-03-2023 Up to 17.30 Hours**, 7) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid: **15-03-2023 Up to 17.30 Hours**, 8) Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid : **16-03-2023 Up to 17.30 Hours**, 9) Addl. information: Executive Engineer, M.I. & G.W.D. Division, Kalaburagi, 10) Address of E-Portal : **www.e-proc.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer
Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Division, Kalaburagi
DIPR/Kalaburagi/1437/MC&A/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Zilla Panchayath, Ballari.
Office of Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Ballari.
No.: EE/RDWS&SD/B/JE-1/JJM/Tender.Nofi/2022-23/ Dated:04.03.2023

E-tender Notification (KTTP Act 2000)

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Ballari hereby calls the e-tender for execution of FHTC (Retrofitting) & Augmentation of MVS work at Ballari, Sandur, Siruguppa & Kampli Taluk in JJM Head, through e-procurement for bidders who are Registered by Public work department. The information regarding tenders will be made available in **(www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in)** website & Tender document download date **01/03/2023**, The last date to receive the tender from eligible bidders is at 04.00 pm on **10/03/2023** Date of opening of Technical Bid is at 05.00 pm on **11/03/2023** and Pre-bid meeting is held at Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Ballari, Above SBI Bank, Sudha Cross, Cantonment at 11.00 am on **06/03/2023** For further more information contact above said Office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, RDW & S Division, Ballari.
DIPR/Ballari/1001/KSMCA/2022-23

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

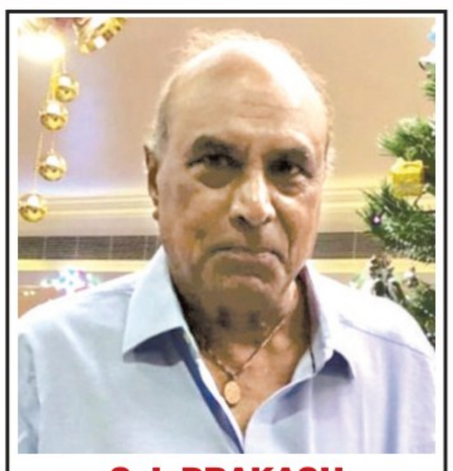
Mr. S. Dinakar (57)
Senior Deputy Editor - Sports, THE HINDU, Chennai
passed away on 06-03-2023
Address:
No 40, B-9, Rukmini Apartments
Kasturba Nagar, Second Main Road
Adyar, Chennai - 600 020
Ph: 93809 86670

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Twelfth Anniversary
Over a Decade gone Nobody can Replace you
You will always remain in our hearts

15-9-1938 - 8-3-2011
K.S.L.NARASIMHAN
Deputy General Manager (Retired HDFC Ltd.)
Life is not same without you We miss you
Family Members, Relatives & Friends

DEATH



S.J. PRAKASH
Chairman, M/s Prakash Impex
22.07.1944 - 07.03.2023
You will always live in our hearts guiding and blessing us
Mourned by the Management Staff and Workers of M/s PRAKASH IMPEX

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INBRIEF

'Secure release of fishermen detained in Diego Garcia'

A total of 16 Indian fishermen – seven from Kerala, six from Tamil Nadu and three from West Bengal – have been apprehended by authorities in Diego Garcia of British Indian Ocean Territory, when they were fishing in the deep sea waters on February 23. In this regard, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi requesting to direct the Union Ministry of External Affairs to take up the matter with the authorities concerned to secure the release of these fishermen.

Man set on fire during Holi celebrations in Medak district

In a shocking incident, a man was set on fire by another person at Marpally village in Medak district of Telangana on Tuesday. According to sources, while Holi celebrations were on, one Anjaiah of the village sprinkled colour on another person Shabbir. Enraged over this, Shabbir reportedly brought petrol, poured it on Anjaiah and allegedly torched him. He was injured seriously and shifted to government hospital. His condition is stated to be critical.

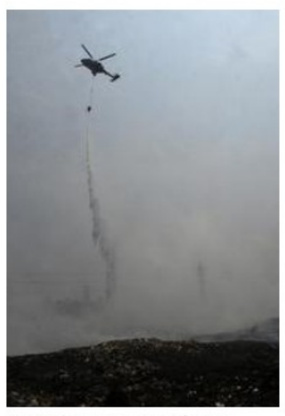
'Kochi dumpyard smoke to be contained in two days'

Pollution from Brahmapuram waste treatment plant in the city continues for the sixth day; 35 fire tenders and 12 earthmovers are engaged in tossing around garbage heaps and soaking them

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Intermittent fire and smoke at the Brahmapuram solid waste treatment plant in Kochi for the sixth consecutive day continued to keep agencies involved in crisis management on their toes on Tuesday.

A fire breakout in a certain area of the fire zone for two hours till Monday midnight was a minor setback, but firefighters managed to bring the situation under control shortly thereafter. A consensus seems to elude the agencies involved on the time by which smoke can be fully contained.



Water being poured from a helicopter over heaps of garbage at Brahmapuram on Tuesday. THULASI KAKKAT

District Collector Renu Raj, however, claimed that smoke would be completely contained in the next two days. "Intensified firefighting works are under way as containing smoke remains the top priority. Thirty fire tenders and 12 earthmovers are engaged in tossing around garbage heaps and watering them," she said.

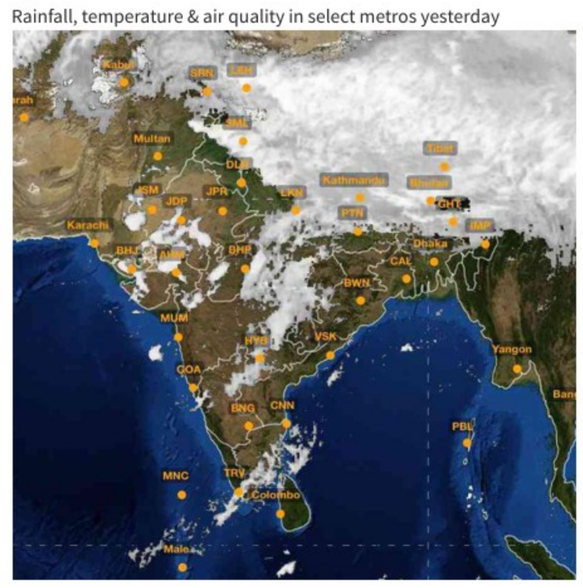
Copters of the Navy and the Air Force were also engaged in aerial spraying though they were used sparingly depending on the wind conditions. "Copters were engaged in aerial spraying when firefighters had a break since aerial spraying further intensified smoke, making ground-level work impossible. Wind also leads to smouldering of garbage heaps from inside," said Mayor M. Anilkumar.

The fatigue experienced by firefighters engaged in continuous work for almost a week was also a matter of concern. "However, this cannot be done by anyone other than trained staff. Hence, we have pressed in firefighters from neighbouring districts as well," said Ms. Raj.

Meanwhile, the Kerala High Court has proposed a three-level court-monitored programme for the implementation of the Municipal Solid Waste Management rules. A Division Bench of the High Court consisting of Justices S.V. Bhatti and Basant Balaji on Tuesday proposed the monitoring mechanism.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning/hail/gusty wind likely at isolated places over east Rajasthan, Sikkim, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Vidarbha, Marathwada and central Maharashtra

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	33.7	17.5	Kozhikode	—	35.3	24.3
Ahmedabad	3	35.0	19.3	Kurnool	—	36.2	19.4
Aizawl	—	33.6	11.7	Lucknow	—	31.4	17.4
Allahabad	—	32.3	17.2	Madurai	—	35.2	21.6
Bengaluru	—	31.8	16.4	Mangaluru	—	35.1	21.3
Bhopal	6.8	28.0	15.6	Mumbai	—	35.8	24.5
Bhubaneswar	—	36.0	23.8	Mysuru	—	34.0	19.2
Chandigarh	—	30.9	13.8	New Delhi	—	31.3	14.3
Chennai	—	32.1	22.7	Patna	—	32.4	17.2
Coimbatore	—	33.8	20.4	Port Blair	—	31.8	25.0
Dehradun	—	29.2	13.4	Puducherry	—	33.0	19.8
Gangtok	—	18.6	11.3	Pune	3.4	30.3	17.7
Goa	—	37.0	21.4	Raipur	—	34.0	22.2
Guwahati	0.4	33.1	15.8	Ranchi	—	32.0	16.8
Hubballi	—	35.0	19.0	Shillong	—	22.6	10.0
Hyderabad	—	30.7	20.7	Shimla	—	19.4	8.4
Imphal	—	30.1	13.3	Srinagar	—	20.6	3.3
Jaipur	—	32.2	18.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.0	23.2
Kochi	—	32.0	24.6	Tiruchi	—	34.5	22.0
Kohima	—	22.8	11.4	Vijayawada	—	34.7	21.5
Kolkata	—	34.4	21.8	Visakhapatnam	—	31.4	24.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	—	—	.15	193	156	
Bengaluru	6	.62	.32	107	103	
Chennai	.23	.31	.54	126	98	
Delhi	.19	.75	.42	248	196	
Hyderabad	4	.54	.30	126	138	
Kolkata	.13	.42	.49	119	104	
Lucknow	.21	.61	.34	173	123	
Mumbai	.71	157	.92	121	137	
Pune	114	163	110	214	143	
Visakhapatnam	7	.59	.80	153	200	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Dindigul, Tamil Nadu recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 303 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 26

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Illegal electric fence kills three elephants in Tamil Nadu

P. V. Srividya
DHARMAPURI

Two adult female elephants and a makhna were electrocuted by an illegal electric farm fence in Tamil Nadu's Dharmapuri district on Monday. The two calves that were part of the group, however, were saved in time after the forest squad alerted power utility staff to cut off supply to the fence.

The incident happened near a reserve forest past 10.30 p.m on Monday night at Kali Kavundar Kottai village in Kendanahalli in Dharmapuri, when an anti-depredation squad was tracking a group of three adults and two calves in Marandahalli.

The Forest Department was closely tracking the group, and had briefly lost sight of them until they heard the agonising cries of the elephants, said K.V.A. Naidu, District Forest Officer. "Our squad found three adults lying on the ground, along with a calf which was found alive. Immediately, we alerted the Electricity Department staff and disconnected the power supply."

Jumbo issue: Activists claim that regular checks by the Electricity Department could have prevented such deaths. N. BASHKARAN

A 67-year-old farmer, K. Murugesan, was arrested.

The adults were about 30 years old. The field was surrounded by a metal line, a foot-and half high; to this was attached a wooden stick fastened to a metal rod with a hook drawing power from a live wire, said DFO Mr. Naidu.

The tragedy left behind two calves, aged under nine months, which were roaming around the area and trying to get close to their dead mothers at periodic intervals. "We have to find ways to unite them with some other group. They cannot fend for themselves," said the DFO.

A special team from Theppakadu Elephant camp will reach the site on Wednesday to try and unite the calves to a herd. "The challenge is to find a herd and see if they accept the calves. In the event of the herd not taking in the calves, the two young ones will be sent to Mudumalai elephant camp," Mr. Naidu said.

The three elephants were buried on the site after a post-mortem. The two calves were driven to a distance of 200 m from the bodies and a special team is monitoring and the feeding the calves. This could have been averted had the EB department been carrying regular drives in the farms, activists said.

TWO CALVES ORPHANED
» PAGE 16

Divine moment

With devotion: Women praying at the annual 'Attukal Pongala' on Tuesday. It falls on the ninth day of the annual ten-day festival celebrated at the Attukal Bhagavathy Temple in Thiruvananthapuram. On the occasion, women prepare *pongala* (sweet dish) as an offering to the deity. S. MAHINSHA

ISRO conducts parachute deployment tests on rail tracks for Gaganyaan Mission

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has conducted Rail Track Rocket Sled deployment tests of the Gaganyaan Pilot and Apex Cover Separation parachutes.

ISRO reported conducting the Rail Track Rocket Sled deployment tests of the Gaganyaan Pilot and Apex Cover Separation parachutes in cluster configurations at the Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL), Chandigarh, on March 1 and 3.

ISRO added that the first test simulated the clustered deployment of two pilot parachutes. One parachute was subjected to a minimum angle with respect to flow conditions, and the second parachute was subjected to a maximum angle with respect to flow.

These pilot parachutes are used in the Gaganyaan Mission to extract and deploy the main parachutes independently.

The second test simulated the clustered deployment of two ACS parachutes under maximum dynamic pressure conditions. The test also simulated clustered deployment at a 90-degree angle-of-attack-conditions for the crew module. The ACS parachutes are used in the Gaganyaan Mission for separation of the apex cover mounted on the crew module. Both pilot and ACS parachutes were deployed using a pyrotechnic mortar device.

The Gaganyaan parachute system development has been a joint effort by VSSC, Thiruvananthapuram, and Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), Agra.

The Gaganyaan project envisages demonstration of human space flight capability by launching a crew of three members to an orbit of 400-km for a 3-day mission, and bringing them back safely to Earth, by landing in Indian sea waters.

The first trial (uncrewed flight) for Gaganyaan is being planned by the end of 2023, or early 2024. This will be followed by sending Vyom Mitra, a humanoid, and then with the crew onboard.

Breaking the male bastion in temple roof painting

Aabha Raveendran
KOZHIKODE

"Be careful, it's not an easy task. Let us know if you need help." The warnings from accomplished male mural artists only served to ignite their self-respect and determination. It was a challenge that they could not afford to fail.

The result: Ambili Vijayan, Rajina Radhakrishnan, Anaswara, Swathi and Haritha successfully completed the painting of the 'mukhappu' of two shrines in the Mannambrathu Bhagavathi temple in Kerala's Vadakara recently and became the first group of female mural artists to do so.

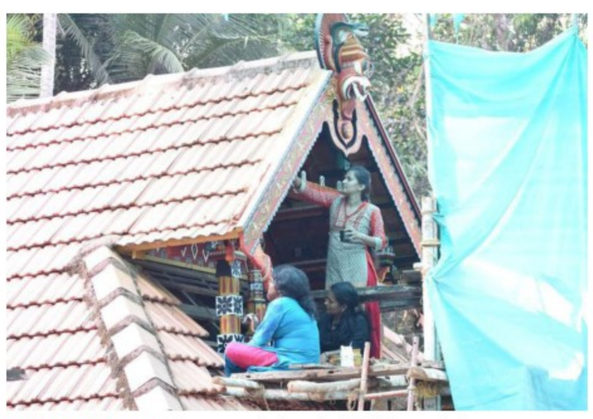
'Mukhappu' is the intricate triangular wooden part of a temple roof, the painting of which is known as 'chanthattu', which has been a male bastion so far, especially due to the risk factor. For one, the area to be painted is around 18 feet above the ground and can be accessed only by a ladder or a scaffolding. Next, there are many layers to the 'mukhappu' and the artists need to crawl inside and often lay prostrate to paint on them.

"I feel women are more suitable for this job as they are smaller in size and more flexible. The tricky part was the painting of the 'Kim Purushan' (the dragon-like head at the top of the roof). We placed a stool above the scaffolding to reach it," said Ambili Vijayan, who led the team, rejoicing over their victory against the fear of heights.

The team appreciates the open-mindedness of the temple committee, who did not bat an eye when the women came forward for a task that has always been done by men. "They set up the scaffolding for us. They even allowed a hijab-clad Muslim friend of ours to come inside the temple and sketch us as we worked," Ms. Ambili added.

Ambili and Rajina are the most experienced artists in the group while the other three are fine arts students. It took them around 20 days across January and February 2023 to complete the work.

The team has already been approached by at least three other temple committees from different parts of the State.



With confidence: Women painting the 'Mukhappu' of Mannambrath Bhagavathi temple at Vadakara. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Stalin meets migrant workers, allays fears triggered by rumours

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUNELVELI/CHENNAI

To allay the fears among migrant labourers following the rumours on social media platforms that workers from Bihar were being attacked in Tamil Nadu, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday met labourers from Jharkhand working in a surgical glove manufacturing unit near Kaavalkinaru in Tirunelveli district.

Mr. Stalin, who was proceeding to the Thoothukudi airport from Nagercoil where he attended a few functions on Monday and Tuesday, visited the factory of Kanam Latex Industries Pvt. Ltd., near Kaavalkinaru, on the Tirunelveli-Kanniyakumari border and interacted with the migrant labourers.

The Chief Minister enquired with the workers from Jharkhand about the food, stay, working conditions, working hours and other facilities being provided to them by the management. Most of them told Mr. Stalin that they felt secure. One male worker told him in Hindi that he had panicked when he received the disturbing visuals purportedly showing the migrant workers being targeted in Tiruppur. Mr. Stalin dismissed it as the handiwork of "a few mischievous people" spreading rumours to trigger panic.

Tamil Nadu CM M.K. Stalin interacting with the migrants in the gloves manufacturing unit near Kaavalkinaru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Asra Garg, Inspector-General of Police, South Zone, translated the youth's apprehension. Mr. Stalin replied, "The visuals are not from Tiruppur... It is an old video from some other place. We are here to protect you, and hence you need not worry."

An official release said around 450 workers were employed in the company. Of them, more than 150 workers, including 30 women, are from Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

The workers said some of them had been working here for six years, some had been living with their families and many had been working here for a year or two.

They informed the CM that their work environment was very good, all facilities, including quality food and shelter, were being provided by the company, and people here were treating them like brothers and they were living safely, as if they were in their home town.

Rescued cubs likely to be shifted to zoo

Ramesh Susarla
BAIRLOOTY (NANDYAL DIST.)

Forest officials waited for the mother of four tiger cubs at Pedda Gummadapuram village till Tuesday evening, but in vain and are contemplating shifting the litter to Hyderabad or Tirupati Zoo till the cubs can be rehabilitated in the wild.

Following all National Tiger Conservation Authority of India SOPs, Forest Range Officer Mohammed Hayyat of Bairlooty and his team reviewed all the camera traps to track the movement of the mother.

According to a statement by Atmakur NSTR Project Tiger Monitoring Committee at Bairlooty Veterinary Care Centre in Atmakur Wildlife Division, where the cubs are temporarily housed, animal handlers and veterinarians from Sri Venkateswara Zoo, Tirupati arrived at Bairlooty and found all of the cubs healthy.

Atmakur Division Forest officials had a sleepless night on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday as the survival of the cubs without their mother was crucial. The location of finding these cubs was Guvvalakuntla-B Reserve Forest, compartment No. 827.

Home and away

Migrant workers must feel safe and as integral part of the community

The rumours and fake news about migrant workers in Tamil Nadu being attacked have seen the quick intervention of the authorities, assuring the workers of their safety. Many workers, most from Bihar, have been seen at railway stations waiting to leave for their home State after a video clip of violence between two groups of migrant workers was interpreted as an attack on migrant workers by locals. In any case, some of the workers were planning to be home for Holi festivities. Even before the problem could snowball, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin did well to contact his Bihar counterpart Nitish Kumar. There has been quick follow up elsewhere too. The Tamil Nadu police filed cases against those spreading rumours, which included the editor of the *Dainik Bhaskar*, under various sections of the Indian Penal Code. A person has been arrested in Jamui district of Bihar for sharing a misleading video clip. The Bihar police have also found some videos and news reports to be misleading and fake. Officials from Bihar and Jharkhand have visited the migrant hubs of Coimbatore and Tiruppur, and industry representatives are doing their bit to reassure the workers.

The issue has, unfortunately, paved the way for chauvinistic politics in Tamil Nadu and Bihar. The role that migrant workers play in different fields of economic activity in Tamil Nadu, particularly real estate, is well known. According to CREDAI Tamil Nadu, the migrant community oversees 85% of the work in big projects and 70% in medium-scale projects. It also has a visible presence in manufacturing, textiles, construction, and hospitality. A Tamil Nadu Labour Department survey in 2015 estimated that the State had around 11.5 lakh migrant workers. The episode has only highlighted the need for politicians to exercise caution and restraint when commenting on issues regarding migrant workers. Under the garb of protecting the interests of local people, many leaders have often denigrated migrant workers or held them responsible for problems such as locals facing unemployment. The message, as Mr. Stalin highlighted in his conversation with Mr. Nitish Kumar, that workers "who help in the State's development are our workers", should be internalised by all political parties across the spectrum. At the same time, the government, which has been rolling out welfare measures for the community, should include the supply of pulses and edible oil at concessional rates under the Public Distribution System, supplementing what is being given under the 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme. An exclusive wing can be formed to address the issues and problems migrants face. The government can also institute a fresh and comprehensive study of migrant workers and help in their integration with the local community, to make them feel at home.

Challenging dogma

The threat from stray dogs must be framed as a public health issue

The newspaper rule of thumb is that 'dog-bites-man' stories are not newsworthy. However, with a nearly 1.5 crore stray dog population (2019 livestock census), and a dubious distinction of being the world's dog-bite-and-rabies-capital, India's 'stray dog menace' has a steady presence in the media ecosystem, to the point of being anaesthetising. Occasionally, this stupor is broken by the macabre. An infant in a Rajasthan hospital was reportedly taken away by stray dogs, while strays attacked a four-year-old, with fatal results, which was captured by CCTV cameras, in Telangana. Both incidents constitute only a fraction of the many dog attacks. Despite the acknowledgement of the crisis by States, the Centre, the judiciary, municipalities, and non-governmental organisations, the problem festers.

Dogs have a unique relationship with man's evolutionary history – one of companionship. This poses a moral dilemma of being responsible for their welfare but also confronting the vagaries of their evolution from wolves and their territorial instincts. While by no means a conundrum unique to India, much of the world has drawn the line by de-recognising the rights of stray animals: if leashed and registered, human custodians are obliged to take care of them. If not, the state – as a last resort – is encumbered to euthanise them, in the interest of public health. The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act and the Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, 2001 (being updated), while aimed at limiting the stray population, do nothing to improve public safety. The proposed draft rules, or the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2022, only put forth procedural changes in sterilisation and vaccination, permit only "incurably ill and mortally wounded" dogs to be euthanised, which is what existing rules permit, and make leaders of resident welfare associations responsible for feeding strays in pockets. The PCA and ABC rules acknowledge that unchecked strays must be restrained. However, they do not factor in the magnitude of the problem: that there is nearly one stray for every 100 Indians; that India lacks the infrastructure and mechanism to ensure that the most vulnerable (the poor and their children) are able to access treatment, and that expecting dog numbers to reduce on their own with sterilisation and vaccination is a pipe dream. India has committed to eliminate rabies by 2030, but without first framing the threat from stray dogs as a public health crisis, India's poorest will continue to see their right to safe public spaces culled at the altar of callous activism.

Applying Active Non-Alignment for Ukraine peace

Jorge Heine

is a research professor at the Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University, and a former Ambassador to India. His recent book is 'Latin American foreign policies in the New World Order: the Active Non-Alignment option'

At the recently-held Munich security conference, a major concern of the members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was the reluctance of the Global South to align itself with the G-7 on the war in Ukraine. Although the vast majority of countries across the world condemn the Russian invasion and would like the war to come to an end (as shown in the United Nations vote on the subject in February 2023), very few countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America support the political and economic sanctions on Russia imposed by the G-7. The *cri de coeur* that seems to emerge from these North Atlantic meetings and their inability to rally the rest of the world to wage global war against Russia is: why are not developing nations more like us? Why do they not share our concern with the future of a rules-based international order, now, for the first time, in tatters, because of Russian actions?

The right side of history and ANA

The answer to these questions is very simple. The developing world, and especially Africa, Asia and the Middle East/West Asia, has been the site of many wars, including those of the proxy kind, in the course of the past 70 years. None of them was elevated to the category of a unique war that demanded a global involvement to bring it to an end. Suddenly, a war erupts in Europe, and this means that all bets are off, and all countries should chip in to support Ukraine. Yet, as India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has put it, "Europe has to grow out of its mindset that Europe's problems are the world's problems, but the world's problems are not Europe's."

Unable to come to terms with the fact that developing nations are unwilling to wage economic war against Russia (let alone provide Ukraine with weapons and ammunition, as the United States and Germany recently tried to induce Latin American countries to do), northern leaders are quite at a loss as to what to do. A recent call by Ukraine's President to African leaders to meet with him over a teleconference turned out to be a fiasco: only four out of 55 showed up. The Foreign Minister of Ukraine has gone so far as to call on the Latin American and Caribbean nations "to leave behind their so-called neutrality and put themselves on the right side of history".

Yet, at this particular juncture, what is the right side of history ?

As the international system undergoes major shifts and we find ourselves on the verge of a second Cold War, this time between the U.S. and China, the last thing developing nations need to do is to take sides, allowing themselves to become "the plaything of others" to use Jawaharlal Nehru's famous phrase. It is in this context that the concept of Active Non-Alignment (ANA) has come to the fore.

> The New South that has emerged in the new century, and India in particular, can play a critical role in working out a mediated solution to the conflict

ANA originated in 2019 and was developed in 2020 in response to the U.S.-China struggle for primacy, in which Latin America was caught in the middle. It was a bit of a manifesto calling for Latin American countries not to give in to pressures from either Washington or Beijing and to stick to their own interests. It took a page from the honourable tradition of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), but adapted it to the imperatives of the new century, impelled by the urgency of the Latin American crisis.

And the key word is "active". It is easy to do as you are told. It is much more challenging to embrace agency and come up with a fine-tuned and sophisticated diplomacy that looks at issues on a case-by-case basis. And that is what ANA is all about. As it turns out, more than a future-oriented proposal, it is an approach that is already being applied in practice. Latin American governments had no difficulty in participating one week in December 2021 in the China-Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) ministerial forum in Mexico City, and the next one in the Democracies Summit in Washington DC, seeing no contradiction in doing so.

Neither have they dithered when it has come to rejecting entreaties to ban the Chinese telecom company, Huawei, from their 5G telecom development. So much so that ANA has been referred to as " the region's most significant foreign policy development since the end of the Cold War". In its year-end balance of 2022, Foreign Policy Magazine called it "the year of Non-Alignment".

India's difficult balancing act

Moreover, reactions in the Global South to the war in Ukraine show that ANA is not limited to Latin America. ANA arose in the context of the U.S.-China spat, and the conflict with Russia has its own features, but shares others, including a certain dynamic of "the West vs. the Rest". India plays a key role in it, having taken a clear stand of non-alignment on the war, despite its closer ties with the U.S. in recent years, and its membership in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue ("the Quad"). As host and chair of this year's G-20, India is managing the difficult balancing act of keeping this important informal group of developed and developing nations, that was instrumental in handling the 2008-09 financial crisis, on a steady course, despite the tensions this entails, as became evident in the G-20 Finance Ministers meeting held in Bengaluru recently. Seventeen African countries abstained in the United Nations General Assembly vote to condemn the Russian invasion of Ukraine. And South Africa, the African continent's most developed economy, took this independence from the G-7 one step further by scheduling a naval exercise with the Russian Navy and also China off the country's Indian Ocean coast that was held close to the very anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

A role for BRICS

Moving forward, there is little doubt that the BRICS group – that in many ways embodies the New South that has emerged in the new century – has the potential to play a critical role in furthering some sort of a mediated solution to the Ukraine conflict. Brazil, under the leadership of its President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, has indicated its interest in promoting a peaceful solution. China has come up with its own peace plan. In turn, precisely because of its pivotal position, very much holding the balance in the international balance of power, India is in a privileged position to act as a peace broker. This is what ANA is all about. Not passive neutrality, as some would have us believe, but embodying a pro-active attitude aimed at solving problems and generating the badly needed solutions our troubled world needs.

In the end, what we have on the table are two very different proposals to deal with this tragic war that has brought so much mayhem and suffering to the people of Ukraine. One of them is "to do what it takes" to bring about a Ukrainian victory and "weaken Russia permanently"; the other is to look for a mediated outcome, a peace agreement that would necessarily entail a compromise solution acceptable to both parties. As to which one will prevail will depend in part on the ability of the Global South not to let itself be drawn into this conflict, but rather aim for a mediated outcome.

This article is adapted from a paper the writer presented at a conference held at the India International Centre, "Connected Histories, Shared Present : Cross-Cultural Experiences between Latin America and the Caribbean and India".

Chatbot gaffes that expose the chinks in the AI armour

Atanu Biswas

is Professor of Statistics, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

That OpenAI's ChatGPT has received a lot of attention is well known by now.

Recently, two journalists from the United States polling company, FiveThirtyEight, asked the artificial intelligence chatbot to create an 800-word piece regarding public perception of AI chatbots. "A 2021 survey by the Pew Research Center," the chatbot wrote in the article, "found that 71% of Americans believe it is generally a good thing for society if robots and computers become more capable and sophisticated, while only 27% believe this would be a bad thing." The 2021 Pew survey that ChatGPT was citing, however, was not found by the FiveThirtyEight journalists. When questioned, Pew's media team had the same problem. With regard to the growing use of artificial intelligence in daily life, the FiveThirtyEight team, however, discovered a 2021 Pew survey that came to the opposite conclusion. Only 18% of respondents said they were more excited than concerned, 37% said they were more concerned than excited, and 45% said they were both equally concerned and excited.

The downside

Clearly, AI-powered search engines could be inaccurate and biased. They may even lie blatantly. This is particularly concerning because society as a whole appears to be almost ready to coexist with AI. Within days of its launch, Samantha Delouya of *Business Insider* asked ChatGPT to rewrite a piece she had written on a Jeep factory in Illinois that was idling production because the cost of producing electric vehicles was rising. A nearly pitch-perfect piece was created by ChatGPT, except that it contained fake quotes from Jeep-maker Stellantis' CEO Carlos Tavares, which sounded convincingly like what a CEO might say when faced with the difficult decision to lay off workers.

> When society as a whole appears to be almost ready to coexist with the use of artificial intelligence, it is cause for concern that some AI-powered applications could be inaccurate and biased

But it was all made up.

People became aware that the chatbot Microsoft introduced to its Bing search engine was disseminating a variety of false information about the Gap, Mexican nightlife, the musician, Billie Eilish, and numerous other topics. As a result of the chatbot mania, Google had to introduce "Bard". Alphabet's shares plummeted by more than $100 billion after Bard gave an "incorrect" answer in a demonstration. In 2016, Microsoft apologised after a Twitter chatbot, Tay, began generating racist and sexist messages. Meta's BlenderBot was telling journalists it had deleted its Facebook account after learning about the company's privacy scandals. There are other examples too.

The problem with bot logic

In an interview with *Time* magazine, OpenAI's chief technology officer Mira Murati said the bot "may make up facts" as it writes sentences. She called this a "core challenge". But what are the reasons for such "hallucinations"? ChatGPT generates its responses by predicting the logical next word in a sentence, she said; but what is logical to the bot may not always be accurate.

In reality, AI models are based on vast amounts of digital text that are extracted from the Internet. This content contains a significant quantity of untruthful, biased and toxic materials that may be a bit outdated and that are subsequently inherited by AI models. These technologies do not directly copy text from the Internet when they generate it. And, importantly, they do not have any human-like concept of "true" or "false". Yet, incorrect input may not be the only reason for such AI-generated untruths. "Even if they learned solely from text that was true," Cade Metz, a technology correspondent, wrote in a recent article in *The New York Times*, "they might still produce untruths."

A personal experience

Well, here is a snapshot of my personal experience. The most well-known "living" Bengali novelists are Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay, Samaresh Majumdar, Sunil Gangopadhyay, and Subodh Ghosh, said ChatGPT in response to my query. I immediately pointed out that Sunil Gangopadhyay died in 2012, whereas Subodh Ghosh passed away in 1980. ChatGPT responded, "I apologize, my training data cutoff is 2021." But when I brought up the fact that they both passed away before 2021, it immediately responded, "I apologize for that error in my previous response... Thank you for bringing this to my attention."

Hence, these chatbots are currently platforms that can resemble human writing without making any commitment to the truth. They are entertaining, for sure. However, can we conduct any real business with them? Can one, for instance, rely on a chatbot to prepare teaching materials or news articles? In a piece, in mid-February, in the *MIT Technology Review*, Melissa Heikkilä, senior writer, argues that the technology is not simply ready to be employed in this way at this scale. She referred to large language model chatbots as "notorious bulls***ters" because they frequently convey falsehoods as facts. "They are excellent at predicting the next word in a sentence, but they have no knowledge of what the sentence actually means," she wrote.

Will they be able to acquire such "knowledge"? Will they ever be reasonably truthful? Maybe to some extent, with further training and development. Finally, will they ever comprehend the notion of commitment or the distinction between the truth and lies, though?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Message for the Opposition

The Bharatiya Janata Party's electoral victories in the north-east are a wake-up call for the Opposition. The prospects of their taking on the BJP in the 2024 general election are weak now. The juggernaut of the Prime Minister can only be tackled when the unity of the Opposition is rock solid.

Aanya Singhal,
Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Anti-defection law

The argument that "a whip can be legally issued only by the original political party which set them up as candidates in the election" is reasonable and legally sound (Editorial page, March 7). However, when it comes to merger, the question that arises is about which the original party of the two groups that have "split" is? Is it not reasonable to say that whichever group has the largest chunk of legislators is the original party? Suppose the group that has broken away has 99% legislators and only 1% of the legislators remain, can we say that the group that has only the 1% should be considered the "original party"? One has the anomaly too — that a "breakaway faction" becomes the original party due to the "defection" of more than two-thirds of the members and escapes from the penal provisions of the anti-defection law. All this makes a case for the anti-defection law to be suitably amended and strengthened to stop unprincipled defections.

Kosaraju Chandramouli,
Hyderabad

The anti-defection law is badly drafted, leaving scope for mass defections. The other major flaw is giving the Speaker of the House, who is invariably a member of the ruling party, the power to determine the status of defector. If those two flaws are rectified, the "convulsions being faced by the anti-defection law" will stop.

Duggaraju Srinivasa Rao,
Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

The flames of pollution

It has been a week since the city of Kochi has been enshrouded in a thick pall of smoke. Despite the efforts of fire-fighters, flames continue to ravage the area. This serves as a poignant reminder of the importance of implementing efficacious waste management practices, akin to the ones operationalised in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

The authorities must take cognisance of the exigent situation and avert catastrophe. Prioritising scientific waste management practices is key.

Iwin K.A.,
Chevayur, Kozhikode, Kerala

Rescued

It was heart-warming to read the report, "People rescue four tiger cubs in Andhra Pradesh" (Inside pages, May 7). It is fortunate that the villagers were able to prevent the little ones from becoming easy pickings for the pack of stray dogs that had set upon them. One hopes the four female cubs eventually become tigresses where "in what distant deeps or skies. Burnt the fire of thine eyes?"

Vikram Kapoor,
Hyderabad

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

The importance of women-led digital solutions

Elisabeth Faure

is Representative and Country Director, United Nations World Food Programme in India

The theme for International Women's Day 2023 is 'DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality.' The transformational and all-encompassing role of digital technology is growing even faster in the post-pandemic world. But sadly, the digital revolution also poses the challenge of perpetuating gender inequality, which is increasingly noticeable in the manner in which women are left behind in knowledge of digital skills and access to technologies.

In the small holder farming sector, for instance, boosting female ownership of mobile phones and training on how to use them is crucial given that agricultural and market information are increasingly being delivered through digital platforms. The need for inclusive technology and digital education is essential for a sustainable future. In this context, the challenge and opportunity we have are not just about leveraging digital tech and innovation for creating gender equality but also placing women as the torchbearers of digital innovations and leaders in the community.

Nutrition and empowerment

A case in point is the introduction of digital training and mobile tablets for the cook-cum-helpers who drive PM POSHAN. Ninety per cent of them are women.

Nearly, three million cook-cum-helpers play a critical role in preparing and providing hot, cooked meals to millions of schoolchildren under the scheme. Nutritional improvement through the mid-day meals scheme is inextricably linked with food safety. Unsafe food served in schools has the potential to create a vicious cycle of disease and malnutrition, impacting school children who eat these meals.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in partnership with the Governments of Odisha and Rajasthan has rolled out technology-based training modules housed in an application, and mobile tablets for strengthening the capacity of the community in ensuring that proper hygiene and safety measures are followed so that children reap the full benefits of the nutrition that these school meals offer. The FoSafMDM application is available on the Google Play Store and can be used on any android device.

By bringing together access to a digital device, digital literacy, and community ownership for women, the initiative has infused fresh energy and confidence in how women perceive and deliver their roles as nutrition champions.

Digital literacy, food security

Unleashing women's economic power helps to lift millions out of poverty and food insecurity, and one of the keys to achieving this is digital literacy. This strengthens financial inclusion and creates potential new income streams.

We see this transformation in communities that are under-served in terms of access to digital services and opportunities. The National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5) indicates that 54% women and 64% children in India's urban areas are anaemic.

In a pilot on financial literacy and digital literacy being implemented by the WFP with women self-help groups across low-income groups in Delhi's urban slums, nearly 70% of women wanted to acquire new skills. Most were aware of the potential of digital platforms to start businesses and add to family income. A needs assessment conducted by the WFP among urban poor women in Delhi showed that few had a bank account. Many had smartphones but were dependent on family members to help them use the devices. Women were, however, aware of the benefits of financial and digital literacy in advancing their businesses and incomes, and therefore were keen to learn.

The women participating in training said that going forward, they will prioritise access to financial services to manage their own economic activities efficiently and take informed decisions to enhance their livelihoods, food security, and nutrition.

Gender-responsive approach

India accounts for half the world's gendered digital divide given that only a third of all Internet users in the country are women. In Asia-Pacific, India has the widest gender gap of 40%. Less than 32% of women in India own a mobile phone compared to over 60% of men. Women generally have handsets that cost less and are not as sophisticated as those used by men, and their usage of digital services is usually limited to phone calls and text messages. Owning and using a digital device is a household decision taken by the man.

The NFHS-5 shows that more than 18% of women between 15 and 49 years have a low body mass index while more than half the pregnant women in the same age group are anaemic. Access to digital literacy and platforms would create awareness about the gap and needs in the populations that are often on the margins of the digital revolution.

Women can harness digital tools for improving nutrition schemes and initiatives, while also using them to create economic opportunities that ensure long-term food and nutrition security.

Women can harness digital tools for improving nutrition schemes and initiatives and to create economic opportunities

SRINATH M.

The Sagardighi shock for Trinamool

The ruling party cannot take the support of Muslims for granted any longer

STATE OF PLAY

Shiv Sahay Singh
shivsahay.s@thehindu.co.in

Byelections are usually subdued affairs in West Bengal and do not generate much interest in political circles. In the past few decades, the ruling party has won the majority of the bypolls. But the byelection to the Sagardighi Assembly seat is an exception not only because the ruling Trinamool Congress lost, but also because the results have triggered speculation of a new realignment in West Bengal politics.

The majority of the electorate in Sagardighi, located in West Bengal's Murshidabad, is from the minority community. The Trinamool had been winning the seat with comfortable margins from 2011. The death of a former MLA and former Minister of West Bengal, Subrata Saha, in December 2022, had necessitated the bypoll. Saha had won the seat in 2021 by a margin of over 50,000 votes.

The Trinamool leadership was confident of once again winning the seat without much resistance. But the Left Front-supported Congress candidate Bayron Biswas sprang a surprise on March 2 by defeating the Trinamool nominee Debasish Banerjee by a margin of 22,986 votes. In the bypoll, Mr. Biswas, a local beedi baron, secured about 47.4% of the total votes polled, whereas the Trinamool nominee secured about 34.9% of the votes. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate got 13.9% of the votes. This is in sharp contrast to the 2021 Assembly polls when the Trinamool candidate secured 50.9% of the votes followed by

the BJP candidate with 24% of the votes and the Congress candidate with 19.4%.

Mr. Biswas's victory has given the Congress an entry into the West Bengal Assembly after nearly two years. While stating that the results indicate that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is not "invincible," State Congress president Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury acknowledged "strategic support" from the BJP in the bypoll. The BJP's vote share dropped markedly and the Congress's vote share increased significantly from 2021.

The drop in the Trinamool's vote share and the increase in the Congress's vote share indicates that a section of Muslims who had supported the ruling establishment have chosen the Congress on this occasion.

Ms. Banerjee said that the loss at Sagardighi was the result of an "immoral alliance" between the Left, Congress and the BJP. She accused the Opposition of playing the "communal card," but added that she does not believe that minorities are shifting allegiance away from the Trinamool.

It is difficult to see any trend on the basis of a bypoll to one Assembly seat, but it is true that some Muslims have been feeling uncomfortable with recent developments in the State. The mysterious death of student leader Anish Khan, the arrest of Indian Secular Front MLA Naushad Siddique, who went on to spend 42 days in jail, and the recent scams including the recruitment scam has dented the image of the State's ruling party. The Trinamool government has also been providing cash incentives for Durga Pujas and organising Ganga Aartis along the lines of the ones held in Varanasi. While the Trinamool leadership had vociferously opposed the controversial Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the National Register of Citizens, it has maintained a strategic silence on issues such as the construction of the Ram Mandir and triple talaq.

Among the factors in the 2021 Assembly polls which helped the Trinamool Congress resist the BJP was the support of minorities who comprise 27% of the State's population. The BJP did not engage with the Muslim population then; the Assembly seats it won in areas such as Malda and Murshidabad was on the basis of polarisation of Hindu votes. The Muslims did not consider the third alternative being presented by the Left parties and the Congress.

However, the Sagardighi bypoll indicates some churning on the ground over the last two years. If the State Congress president's claims that "strategic support" was provided by the BJP are true, it indicates something different is brewing in the West Bengal politics. The Trinamool will not only have to tackle the three major Opposition forces – the Left, the Congress and the BJP, but also keep its vote bank intact. Despite the existence of several welfare schemes, Muslims continue to be among the most economically backward groups in the State. The Trinamool cannot take their support for granted anymore.

Role of the external sector and the fiscal side in recovery

For sustained economic recovery, government expenditure should not remain tethered to tax revenue

DATA POINT

Rohit Azad & Indranil Chowdhury

In continuation of the first piece published on March 7, where we discussed the role of consumption and investment in India's post-pandemic economic recovery, here we look at the roles that external demand and the fiscal side may have played.

We plot the share of exports in GDP with the GDP growth rate in **Chart 1A**, which shows that the growth of exports (perhaps as a result of pent-up global demand) has contributed to the overall growth in the economy. The level of exports is dependent on the income of the countries to which India exports. So, by virtue of being an exogenous factor, they can play a balancing role, particularly during domestic slowdowns, provided the global economy itself is also not slowing down. Because if it does, this buoyancy of exports may not remain in the medium run. **Chart 1B** shows that fiscal spending has also helped, even though the magnitude of its contribution in revival, which we saw in the first part, was not as significant as the other factors.

Let us focus on these two variables starting with the external sector. In the context of exports, it is often argued that depreciation of the rupee helps since Indian goods become cheaper for the rest of the world even as imports become more expensive. In this context, outflow of footloose capital as has happened in the recent past (resulting from the rise in Fed rate) may not be all that bad since it depreciates our currency. But does this really hold in the Indian case? **Chart 2** shows that as the rupee lost value in real terms (what is called the real effective exchange rate), India's trade balance deteriorated instead of improving. So, despite a fall in the real value of the rupee, India lost to competitors (in the net). This is not as surprising as it may seem because, as the global economy slows, our exports slow down irrespective of whether our goods become cheaper. On the other hand, our imports may continue to rise depending on how our economy grows. In other words, the loss of rupee is at best a sideshow in the Indian export-import story. Other studies have shown that this has been the case even during the heydays of Indian high growth of the 2000s. We should not draw solace from a falling rupee.

That brings us to the last, but not the least (particularly at this juncture), factor – fiscal demand. Fiscal policy is as much about redistribution as about demand generation. **Chart 3** shows that fiscal expenditure has been made easy by buoyant tax revenues so the two have moved in tandem. There are two issues here. One, in itself, a regime of tax-financed government expenditure is not a bad idea provided these taxes don't disproportionately burden the poor and the marginalised. Because if they do, it would be like providing an employment guarantee but financing it by taxing the same person more. Unfortunately, India has one of the most regressive tax systems (the ratio of indirect to direct taxes) among the G20 countries. This warped composition of taxes has to change if we are to move forward both in addressing demand and distribution. Two, for the sustainability of this economic revival, one needs to have the flexibility where government expenditure does not remain tethered to the tax revenue since in the event of a reversal of economic fortunes, the tax revenues will nosedive as well. An untethered fiscal expenditure in such a situation will come in handy both in the short and medium term to help the economy stay afloat and weather the storm.

Rohit Azad and Indranil Chowdhury teach Economics at JNU and PGDAV College, Delhi University, respectively

Charting the revival

The charts are based on data sourced from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and the Reserve Bank of India

Chart 1A: Chart shows that the growth of exports has contributed to the overall growth in the economy

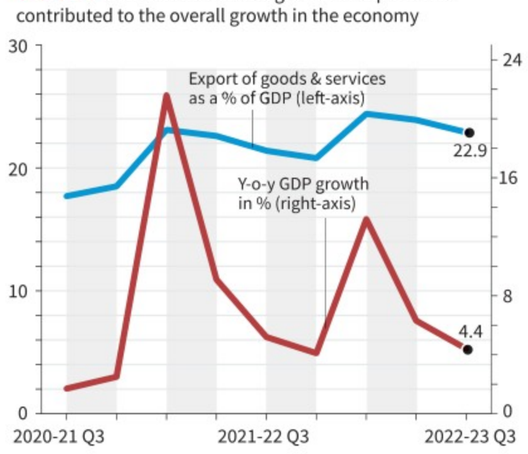


Chart 1B: The chart shows that fiscal spending has also helped in the revival but not as significantly as other factors

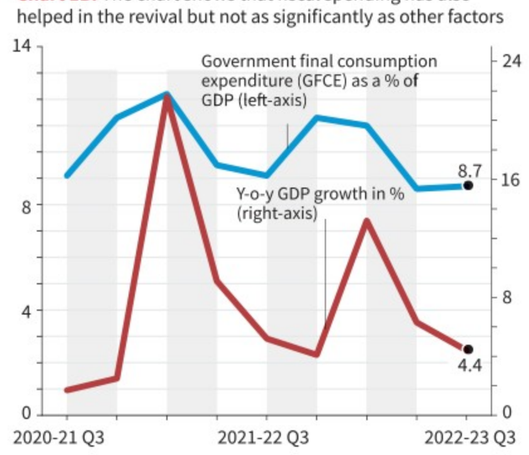


Chart 2: India's trade balance deteriorated instead of improving as the rupee lost value in real terms

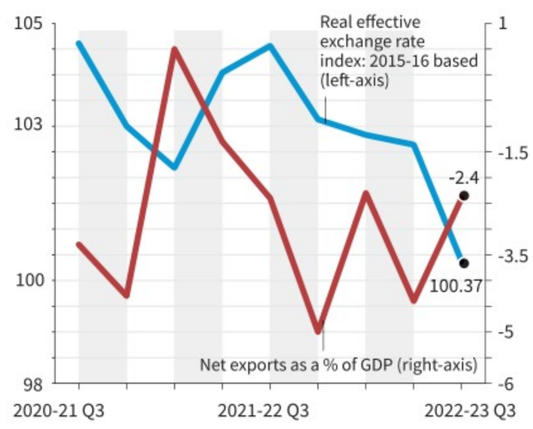
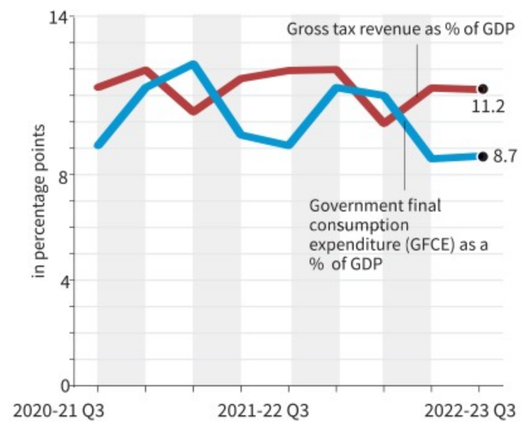


Chart 3: Fiscal expenditure has been made easy by buoyant tax revenues, so the two have moved in tandem



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO MARCH 8, 1973

Ticketless air trip: Minister admits security lapse

New Delhi, March 7: Angry Rajya Sabha members were to-day up in arms against what they described as the light-hearted manner in which the Minister for Aviation, Dr. Karan Singh, dealt with the question relating to three persons travelling without ticket on Air India flight from Bombay to London. Describing the incident as "anti-national", "very serious" and "agonising", members from all sections of the House demanded immediate suspension of the officers concerned, including the Chairman and General Manager of the Air India. Several of them, including those from the ruling benches, suspected that there was collusion between officers of Air India, the International Airport Authority and the Police in allowing three stowaways into the Air India flight on March 3. Two senior members, Mr. Chandra Sekhar and the usually calm Mr. Gangasaran Sinha, were very severe. Mr. Sinha said the attitude of the Minister was commendable and he wondered what the fate of the country would be if the reins of the nation were in the hands of people who took such serious matters lightly. Mr. Chandra Sekhar demanded that the Minister must first suspend the General Manager and Chairman and then come and talk in the House. The temper in the House was such that the Minister found it fit to apologise to Mr. Gangasaran Sinha for any impression he had created among the members that he dealing with the matter light-heartedly. Without exception members expressed their concern over the incident particularly in these days of threats from Black December. Member after member sought direction from the Chair to the Minister to take note of the temper of the House and take action immediately.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MARCH 8, 1923

The Salt Duty

Rangoon, Mar. 6: Mr. U.B. Si. President of the General Council at Burmese Association (Council Entry Party) has wired to the Government of India, the emphatic protest of his Council against the doubling of the excise duty on salt as it hits the poor more than others. The telegram adds that at the Conference held at Peru last month it was resolved to abolish the excise duty on salt.

From Page One

U.S. is trying to 'encircle' China: Foreign Minister

Meanwhile, the Chinese Foreign Minister, in Tuesday's press conference – his first since taking over in December - spoke in detail on the worsening state of China-U.S. relations and reminded Washington of Beijing's "red line" on Taiwan.

In his more than two hour briefing, Mr. Qin did not comment on relations with India, taking questions only from Chinese journalists as well as reporters from Egypt, Russia, the U.S., Pakistan, Japan, Singapore and France.

Mr. Qin, who served as China's envoy in Washington prior to his appointment, attacked the Biden administration's China policy, saying it "claims it seeks to out-compete China but does not seek conflict, yet in reality, its so-called competition means to contain and suppress China in all respects".

"If the U.S. does not hit the brake but continues to speed down the wrong path, no amount of guardrails can prevent derailing and there will surely be conflict and confrontation," he said, adding that the recent U.S. shooting down of a Chinese balloon – described by the U.S. as a "spy balloon" and by China as a civilian meteorological airship – was "revealing" of the U.S. "regarding China as a primary rival" and of "U.S. domestic politics and hysterical neo-McCarthyism".

On Taiwan

On Taiwan, he said it was "the first red line that must not be crossed in China-U.S. relations" and Beijing would take "utmost efforts to pursue peaceful reunification" while "reserving the option to take all necessary measures".

Drawing a comparison with the Ukraine crisis, he said Asia should not see "a Ukraine-style crisis" and be used as a "chessboard for geopolitical contest".

"Chinese people have every right to ask why the U.S. talks of respecting sovereignty and territorial integrity on Ukraine, but disrespecting China's sovereignty and territorial integrity on Taiwan, and why the U.S. asks China to not provide arms to Russia while keeps selling arms to Taiwan," he said.

Mr. Qin hailed the China-Russia relationship as a model of "strategic trust and good neighbourliness", adding, pointedly, that "major countries should figure out what they want with each other – building exclusive political blocs or fostering partnerships that are open."

Women break the rock ceiling in the deep

"It gives me freedom and also provides a lot of recognition. There are not many women shovel operators in the coal mine," she said.

Ms. Paswan is not the only woman though. In Barmuri open-cast mine in Dhanbad district of Jharkhand, bordering West Bengal, there are about six women shovel operators and drill operators.

Initial difficulties

Amoti Mejhiyan and Malti Mejhiyan, both in their early 30s, are operating shovels in the open-cast mine pit. "Initially it was difficult to operate such heavy machinery, but now after years of practice I am used to it," Ms. Malati said. A few hundred metres away in the mine, sari-clad Saraswati Mejhiyan and Kumari Babani Bhuniya are operating a massive drilling machine that helps to blast open the surface. The women prefer morning shifts, from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Ms. Paswan, Ms. Malti, Ms. Saraswati and others paved the way for a wider revolution in the Indian mining sector in 2019. The Mines Act of 1952, disallowed the employment of women in underground mines completely and the deployment of women in open-cast mines between 7 p.m and 6 a.m. This practically restricted training and the requirement of women mining engineers, resulting in a gender-bias in the technical cadre at the executive level.

In 2019, the Central government opened the field for women, asking mine owners or management to frame Standard Operating Procedures to facilitate employment of women.

Ahuti Swain, Director (Personnel) of ECL, said that women employees were being encouraged to work in groups in underground mines in the operator category. "Women employees have undertaken various challenging roles in mining activities as crane, shovel, drill, fan operators and and more, and have proved their mettle," Ms. Swain said, adding that 678 women were posted in on-field operations in open-cast mines.

Working in underground mines throws up different challenges. Poulomi Musib was the first woman mining engineer to have completed a B. Tech in mining, from the Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IIEST), near Kolkata. She was also the first woman mining engineer recruited by CIL in 2011.

After the legal restrictions were withdrawn, Ms. Musib was deployed at Narsamuda Colliery, to complete her training. Narsamuda is an underground mine, where coal is extracted through an incline reaching up to 170 metres below the surface.

"I have to go down the mine daily and when I come up and remove the helmet, it's as if someone has poured water on me," she said, referred to the heat in the dimly lit tunnels. "But I love this job; this is something I have wanted to do all my life," Ms. Musib said. She is happy to be training two other women now. "The recognition that comes with breaking gender stereotypes is very rewarding."

CBI questions Lalu in land-for-job scam case

Move comes a day after his wife Rabri Devi's statement was recorded in the case; probe agency team shows RJD leader some documents, seeks clarifications while the process was video-recorded; he had recently returned from Singapore after undergoing a kidney transplant surgery

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Tuesday questioned former Railway Minister Lalu Prasad for about two hours in connection with the land-for-job scam, a day after his wife Rabri Devi's statement was recorded at her Patna residence in Bihar.

A team of five agency officials visited the Pandara Park residence of Misa Bharti, daughter of Mr. Prasad, where they showed him some documents and sought clarifications. The process was video recorded. Mr. Prasad had recently returned from Singapore after a kidney transplant.

Probe on: CBI officials arriving to question RJD chief Lalu Prasad in land-for-jobs case, in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

On Monday, reacting to the CBI's move, Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav told presspersons: "Every month or two, these investigating agencies keep coming to our residence but we are not bothered as we have not done anything wrong. Why should we get perturbed?"

Based on its findings, in October 2022, the CBI filed a chargesheet against 16 accused. Among them were Mr. Prasad, Ms. Devi, Ms. Bharti, the then Railway General Manager Sowmya Raghvan and then Chief Personnel Officer Kamal Deep Mainrai. In January, the agency received prosecution sanction against Mr. Prasad from the competent authority.

Railway posts

Last May, the agency carried out searches in Delhi and Bihar after registering the case against Mr. Prasad, his wife and two daughters, Ms. Bharti and Hema Yadav, and 12 others, alleging that the appointment of several substitutes to the Railways' Group-D posts were made in lieu of land parcels.

The case was instituted on the basis of a preliminary inquiry initiated to examine the allegation that from 2004 to 2009, many ineligible candidates were appointed as substitutes. The beneficiaries were later regularised.

The CBI has alleged that no advertisement/public notice had been issued for the appointments; that the beneficiaries had not even properly addressed the applications to the departments concerned, but "undue haste was shown" in processing and approving them. Several residents of Patna were appointed as substitutes in Mumbai, Kolkata, Jabalpur, Jaipur and Hajipur.

According to the agency, three sale deeds were executed in favour of Ms. Rabri Devi, one land was transferred to Ms. Bharti and another was shown on paper as sold to AK Infosystems, whose properties were taken over by Mr. Prasad's wife and a daughter in 2014. Two other land parcels were initially given to Hridyanand Choudhary, a Gopalganj resident, and Lalan Choudhary from Siwan. They later executed gift deeds in favour of Ms. Hema Yadav.

The CBI alleged that about 1.05 lakh sq.ft of land in Patna was acquired by Mr. Prasad's family members. The land parcels directly transferred to the family members were allegedly bought at prices ranging from ₹3.75 lakh to ₹13 lakh, lower than the then prevailing circle rates.

India sending 20,000 tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan via Chabahar

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

India will send its next consignment of wheat as aid to Afghanistan under the Taliban regime via Chabahar, the External Affairs Ministry said on Tuesday.

The decision, announced at the first meeting of the India-Central Asia Joint Working Group (JWG) on Afghanistan in Delhi, came after the agreement with Pakistan for sending the wheat over the land route expired, and talks on extending the time have failed to proceed.

While India had sent about 40,000 tonnes of the 50,000 tonnes promised after an agreement with the previous Imran Khan government, the shipments had to be called off after floods in Pakistan, and the time allowed by Pakistan ran out.

India has used the Chabahar route in the past, prior to 2021, to send shipments of wheat to Afghanistan

"To address the current humanitarian situation, Indian side announced its partnership with UNWFP (UN World Food Programme) for the delivery of 20,000 tonnes of wheat for Afghan people through the Chabahar Port," the Ministry said in a statement after the meeting of senior officials and envoys of India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The JWG meeting comes more than a year after the India-Central Asia summit in January 2022, where the decision to hold a special contact group on Afghanistan was announced.

At the JWG, India also agreed to offer "customised capacity building courses" for UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) officials and cooperate on initiatives to counter drug trafficking and rehabilitation efforts for Afghan drug users, especially women.

The meet comes even as other Indian and Central Asian officials are taking part in a string of meetings of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation that India is hosting this year.

Shaliza Dhami is first woman to be appointed to an IAF command post

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In the first command appointment for a woman officer in the Indian Air Force, Group Captain Shaliza Dhami has been selected to take over the command of a frontline combat unit in the Western sector, the IAF said on Tuesday.

"Having been commended by the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief on two occasions, the officer is presently posted in the Operations branch of a frontline Command Headquarters," the IAF said.

Group Captain Dhami was commissioned in 2003 as a helicopter pilot and has over 2,800 hours of flying experience. She is a qualified flying instructor, and has served as Flight Commander of a helicopter unit in the Western sector. Congratulating the officer, Air Vice-Marshal Manmohan Bahadur (retd.), former Additional Director-General of the think tank Centre for Air Power Studies (CAPS), said on Twitter, "Her younger brother was with us in CAPS, now an Assistant Professor in Imphal."

Woman in command: Group Captain Shaliza Dhami will take over command of a frontline IAF combat unit in the Western sector. PTI

The armed forces have opened up command appointments for women officers following a Supreme Court verdict.

Exhibition in New Delhi to showcase repatriated artefacts

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

The exhibition showcasing 26 repatriated Indian antiquities, put up at the Khajuraho G-20 culture group meeting, will now be displayed in the national capital in a bid to keep the spotlight on the prevention of illicit trafficking of antiquities.

The exhibition titled "Re (ad)dress: Return of Treasures" includes historical gems like the 12th century Dancing Ganesha, a stone sculpture from central India that went missing but was repatriated from the U.S. in 2021; the 11th century marble figurines of Brahma and Brahmani from Gujarat which was fetched back from the United Kingdom in 2017; and the Yaksha, Amin Pillar from 2nd century B.C., which had gone missing from Haryana, but was later discovered in the U.K. and repatriated in 1979-80.

The presentation was an effort to bring focus on the need for 'Protection and Restitution of Cultural Property' which was the theme of the first G20 Cultural working group meeting held in Khajuraho last month. It would be put on display at New Delhi in early May.

The repatriated Indian antiquities were exhibited and their stories narrated to the G20 delegates. A major attraction was none other than the 900-year-old "Parrot Lady" of Khajuraho – the sandstone sculpture of a woman holding a parrot which was brought back to India from Canada in 2017.

The Parrot Lady of Khajuraho was brought back to India in 2017. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The viewers are taken through the exhibition by a 3D hologram of the 'Parrot Lady', who talks about her love for the homeland and her longing to be back.

Loss of heritage

The idea is to avoid loss of cultural heritage due to conflict and illicit trafficking, facilitate alternate dispute resolution and develop capacity building mechanisms like museums for their preservation and upkeep.

According to a senior official of the Archaeological Survey of India, which is the nodal agency for dealing with antiquities, 244 stolen or missing artefacts have been repatriated to India till date.

NIA arrests five men, says PFI's 'hawala' network unearthed

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The NIA has arrested five persons allegedly part of a multi-State "hawala" network used by the now-banned Popular Front of India (PFI) to route funds.

The accused have been identified as Mohammed Sinan, Sarfraz Nawaz, Iqbal and M. Abdul Rafeek from Karnataka and K.M. Abid from Kerala.

On Tuesday, the agency, while tracing the funds being moved by the outfit, particularly in Kerala, Karnataka and Bihar, in relation to the Phulwarisharif (Patna) case, said it unearthed a large network of "hawala" operatives in South India. "A PFI funding-by-hawala module operating out of Bihar and Karnataka with roots in the UAE has been busted with the arrests of the five accused," an official said.

It alleged that PFI cadre in Bihar's Phulwarisharif and Motihari had decided to continue the outfit's activities in a clandestine manner. Recently, they had allegedly arranged a firearm to eliminate a man .

"Earlier in this case, seven accused have already been arrested... they had gathered in Phulwarisharif area of Patna in July last year for training and to carry out acts of terror and violence," it said.

Had to face many challenges in patriarchal Naga society, says Salhoutuonuo Kruse

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

Ms. Kruse won the Western Angami Assembly seat in Kohima district by only seven votes

Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) leader Salhoutuonuo Kruse, 55, who made history on Tuesday by becoming Nagaland's first woman Minister, said she was thrilled after being sworn in as one of the 12 Ministers.

"The responsibility given to me is huge, especially as the first of a kind. I shall do my best to encourage women to be brave, sincere, and hardworking so that we can work together and gain whatever we have not gained yet," she told presspersons in the State capital Kohima.

A social worker who was associated with several NGOs for more than two decades, Ms. Kruse won the Western Angami Assembly seat in Kohima district by only 7 votes.

She had faced several challenges after deciding to contest the elections and succeed where her husband could not. He failed to win an election and died in 2021.

"The main challenge was contesting the polls as a woman in the Naga society that has a patriarchal mindset, although accommodative to a considerable extent now," she said.

Overcoming patriarchy, Rano M. Shaiza became Nagaland's lone woman Lok Sabha member in 1977 and S. Phangnon Konyak became the BJP's member in the Rajya Sabha in 2022.

Sangama sworn in

Earlier, Meghalaya Governor Phagu Chauhan swore in Conrad K. Sangma as the Chief Minister for the second straight term.

Meghalaya has two Deputy Chief Ministers in Prestone Tynsong and Sniawbhalang Dhar and a woman Minister in M. Ampareen Lyngdoh, formerly of the Congress. All are from the NPP, which heads the five-party alliance with a total of 45 MLAs.

Mr. Sangma said all the regions of the State - Garo, Khasi and Jaintia Hills - had been equitably represented in the new Cabinet. "We hope to provide good governance and carry on from where we left off in terms of development," he said.

The NPP with 26 MLAs leads the coalition, followed by the United Democratic Party with 11, the BJP, Hill State People's Democratic Party and the People's Democratic Party with two each. Two others are Independents.

Pearls Group scam: man held

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has arrested an accused, Harchand Singh Gill, in connection with the ₹60,000-crore Pearls Group scam case, following his deportation from Fiji.

APPEAL

Ajitha is 7 years old child diagnosed with Retinoblastoma. She has to undergo Autologus Bone Marrow Transplantation at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. As she hails from a very poor family they cannot afford **Rs. 3,00,000/-** for the treatment. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged**. The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & Google Pay (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No. 60182010063310, IFSC No. CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/ 7338978027. E Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com**. Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

WWS

Vice-President appoints his staff on House Committees

They will contribute to the functioning of the committees, while also keeping the Chairman apprised of the functioning and performance of the various panels, an official said

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

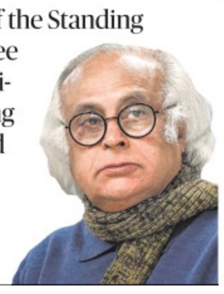
Eight members of the personal staff of Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar have been appointed to 20 committees that come within the ambit of the Upper House.

The order released by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat on Tuesday, raised eyebrows, since there is no past precedent of personal staff working on the committees.

Four of these staffers are employed with the Chairman's office and four of them with the Vice-President's Secretariat.

Each Standing Committee has an official of the rank of Additional Secretary or Joint Secretary assisting in its functioning who also attends the meetings, which are strictly confidential.

> As Chairman of one of the Standing Committees, I fail to see the value addition from this unilateral move. These are Standing Committees of Rajya Sabha and not Standing Committees of Chairman
>
> **JAIRAM RAMESH**
> Rajya Sabha member



According to a senior official in the Chairman's Secretariat, the step has been taken for multiple reasons.

"Recently, on Chairman's directions, researchers working with the 'Library, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS)' were also attached to these committees and their contributions were greatly appreciated. The staffers will also add and contribute to the functioning of committees while also keeping the Chairman abreast of the functioning and performance of the various committees," he said.

Opposition infuriated

The Opposition, however, is not convinced.

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh, who heads the Standing Committee of Science and Technology, said that the order was "unprecedented and inexplicable".

"As Chairman of one of the Standing Committees, I fail to see the value addition from this unilateral move. These are Standing Committees of Rajya Sabha and not Standing Committees of Chairman," he said.

Chairman in loop

A retired Secretary-General of the House, on condition of anonymity, said that every committee was serviced by a Joint Secretary-level official who kept the Secretary-General informed, whenever necessary, of any developments. The Secretary-General kept the Chairman in the loop.

He said the committee chairperson was accountable to Parliament and was responsible for its functioning. "The question here is what is the necessity of bringing in an additional ring of staffers when there is already an existing mechanism which works smoothly," he said.

Congress to persist with its demand for JPC on Hindenburg-Adani issue

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

The Congress will continue with its demand for a probe by the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on the Hindenburg-Adani revelations in the second part of the Budget Session that begins on Monday.

The Trinamool Congress, the second largest Opposition party in Parliament, meanwhile, has taken a diametrically opposite position, calling the JPC an exercise in futility.

"We are persisting in our demand for a JPC which is the only way to unravel the full dimensions of the PM-linked Adani Maha Mega Scam," Congress General Secretary (Communication) Jairam Ramesh told *The Hindu*.

The Trinamool, meanwhile, has taken a stance that a JPC probe would be inadequate. Its Rajya Sabha Parliamentary Party leader, Derek O'Brien, argued that for a JPC, the Chairman would be decided by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Chairman, and would have members from each party according to their numerical strength in Parliament. "This makes these committees skewed towards the ruling majority because of their numbers in the Houses," Mr. O'Brien said.

Contrarian stance: Among the Opposition parties, the Trinamool Congress has said that a JPC investigation is inadequate. FILE PHOTO

At the same time, the Trinamool maintained that the government had not yet answered questions about endangering the common man's savings invested in the State Bank of India (SBI) and the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC). He pointed out that with the fall in Adani Group's shares, the LIC reportedly lost over ₹20,000 crore of investment value out of its total holding of ₹36,000 crore.

Adani Group is powering poll fortunes of BJP: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday raised questions about the Adani Group's operation in the power sector and alleged that "it was powering the BJP's electoral fortunes at the expense of Indian consumers".

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh claimed that in February 2020, Adani Electricity Mumbai raised $1 billion in foreign debt from Asian investors, possibly including Chinese entities. This debt issue pledged the company's entire equity capital and accepted stiff conditions that gave these Asian bondholders first claim on immoveable and moveable properties.

He asked the government to spell out its plan to ensure that the power distribution of Mumbai does not fall into the hands of foreign creditors, especially the Chinese, in the case of a default.

Amid BJP's Tripura win, Pratima Bhowmik's political future hangs in the balance

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

The BJP may have resolved the mystery over who would be the Chief Minister of Tripura after the election of incumbent Manik Saha by its legislature party, but the political fate of Union Minister Pratima Bhowmik, who also fought and won in the Assembly election, is still under a veil.

Ms. Bhowmik, one of the two MPs from Tripura, was asked to contest the difficult Dhanpur seat that was previously held by former Chief Minister Manik Sarkar of the CPI(M).

With the BJP's slim majority – in a House of 60 members, the party won 32 seats, barely over the halfway mark – it is assumed that bypolls (if Ms. Bhowmik prefers to retain her Lok Sabha seat and her berth in the Union Council of Ministers as a Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment) will not be preferred.

Pratima Bhowmik

Bhowmik's Tripura role

This leaves the very important question of how Ms. Bhowmik will be accommodated in State politics and the BJP-led government in Tripura.

Senior sources in the BJP have said that there are attempts to get Ms. Bhowmik appointed Deputy Chief Minister during the swearing-in of Mr. Saha on Wednesday, which also happens to be International Women's Day. This will be a strong symbolic move, but there is no clarity whether that will actually happen.

The only thing that is clear is that the BJP's slim majority in the Tripura Assembly makes the possibility of Ms. Bhowmik retaining her Assembly seat far more probable than retaining her Lok Sabha berth. Technically, she has six months to make up her mind.

Within the BJP, there is acknowledgement that Dr. Saha's continuation as Chief Minister has quietened the situation for some time within the State unit of the party.

However, the slim majority and the presence of heavyweights of the party, including Ms. Bhowmik and former Chief Minister Biplab Deb, will require deft handling and much political accommodation.

BJP accuses Rahul of seeking foreign help in internal affairs

Party slams Rahul Gandhi for 'misusing the forum of British Parliament to spread shameful lies'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's remarks abroad are continuing to raise heat in India, with the BJP lashing out at the Wayanad MP for "seeking the intervention of the U.S. and Europe in India's internal affairs", a charge denied by the Congress that has accused the BJP of "distorting and twisting" Mr. Gandhi's remarks.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi, former Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad accused Mr. Gandhi of trying to "shame India's democracy, India's polity, India's Parliament, India's judicial system and her strategic security from a foreign land."

He said that the BJP thoroughly "disapproved" of Mr. Gandhi "misusing the forum of British Parliament to spread shameful lies and unfounded claims", and said there needed to be a "proper rebuttal". He further said that Indians neither listened to Mr. Gandhi nor understood him, and that supporting him was a distant thing. "Rahul Gandhi has tried to embarrass the country by saying that Europe and America should interfere in the internal affairs of India," he said.

Mr. Prasad sought reactions from Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and his predecessor Sonia Gandhi on what he termed the "utterly irresponsible" statements, and whether the Opposition party disowned them or not.

BJP will not be in power eternally, says Rahul Gandhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi has said that the BJP believes it will be in power eternally but that will not be the case as Opposition parties can come together to 'repair' the damage to Indian democracy.

Addressing a session at the London-based think tank Chatham House late on Monday evening, Mr. Gandhi also compared the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) to Muslim Brotherhood, and called it a "fundamentalist, fascist organisation".

Wrapping up his week-long tour of the U.K., the Congress leader accused the ruling BJP of trying to silence dissent in India and reiterated the charge that Israeli spyware Pegasus was planted on his phone.

"The BJP likes to believe that they have come to power in India and they are going to be in power eternally, that's not the case," Mr. Gandhi said.

When asked what would he want European governments to do about the state of democracy in India, the Congress leader replied, "First of all, this is our problem, an internal problem. The solution has to come from inside"

The Congress leader also repeated his charge that institutions are being captured by the RSS to subvert democracy. Asked to explain the RSS to a foreign audience, he said, "You can call it a secret society. It is built along the lines of the Muslim Brotherhood and the idea is to use the democratic contest to come to power and then subvert the democratic contest afterwards."

ANNA UNIVERSITY
CHENNAI - 600 025

TENDER NOTICE

On-line Tenders in Two Bid System are invited for supply and installation of following equipment / items for the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, CEG Campus, Anna University, Chennai 600 025.

Sl.No.	Tender Ref. No.	Name of the equipment / item	Qty.	Approx. cost Rs.
1.	06_1/CPO/EEE/ ACDCEMD/2023	AC and DC Electrical Machines and Drives	1 set	₹2,80,00,000/-
2.	06_2/CPO/EEE/ SEMD/2023	Special Electrical Machines and Drives	1 set	₹3,15,00,000/-
3.	06_3/CPO/EEE/ CEM/2023	Conventional Electrical Machines	1 set	₹74,00,000/-

The tender documents can be downloaded by registering in the website **https://tntenders.gov.in** from **11.00 am on 08.03.2023.** The filled-in tender documents can be submitted by uploading in the website upto **03.30 pm on 10.04.2023** and will be opened at **03.30 pm on 11.04.2023.** Other detailed tender conditions, future corrigenda etc., please visit the website **(https://tntenders.gov.in).**

DIPR/1508/Tender/2023 **REGISTRAR i/c**

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN)
(Accredited by NAAC) (ISO 9001 ; 2015)
(Dept.of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt.of India)
Muttukadu, East Coast Road, Kovalam (P.O), Chennai - 603 112. Phone: 044 - 27472113, 27472423.
Mobile: 9444314716, Toll Free No: 18004250345 Kiran Mental Health Helpline No: 1800-599-0019
www.niepmd.tn.nic.in Email: niepmd@gmail.com

Employment Notice No. 01 (R) /2023

NIEPMD invites applications from Indian Nationals, who fulfill the prescribed qualification, experience, age and other conditions for filling up the following sanctioned regular posts

1. Deputy Registrar (Admin) – 01
2. Lecturer in Clinical Psychology (Reserved for SC with PwBD) – 01

For detailed advertisement, essential/desirable qualifications, age limit, format of application and the recruitment fee details etc., please visit our website: **www.niepmd.tn.nic.in.** The last date of receipt of applications with fee and necessary documents is 30 days from the date of publication in employment news.

Sd/-
Director

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER (M)5/AEE(T)
Room No. 312, Varunalaya Ph.I, New Delhi
" STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene.

NIT No.04/ACE(M-5)/AEE(T)/2022-23

S. No.	Description	Amount Put to Tender, EMD, Tender Fee	Date of release of tender in E-Procurement Solution	Last date / Time of receipt of Tender Through E-Procurement Solution
1	Providing/laying of HDPE pipe line for horticulture purpose for beautification of corridor from Dhaula Kuan to NSG head quarter under AC-38 Delhi cantonment Constituency under AEE(M)43	Rs. 1,28,58,374/- Rs. 2,57,200/- Rs. 1000/-	03-03-2023 Tender I.D. No. 2023_DJB_237547_1	23.03.2023 at 2:00 P.M.

NIT No.05/ACE(M-5)/AEE(T)/2022-23

S. No.	Description	Amount Put to Tender, EMD, Tender Fee	Date of release of tender in E-Procurement Solution	Last date / Time of receipt of Tender Through E-Procurement Solution
1	Providing, Fixing, Construction of capacity 200 KLD DSTP on any suitable, sustainable and Proven Technology, including Design & Drawing with (1 Year DLP) after commissioning at Subroto Park for Horticulture purpose on NH-8 Corridor Cantonment area AEE(M-43) AC-38	Rs. 1,67,50,000/- Rs. 3,35,000/- Rs. 1000/-	04-03-2023 Tender I.D. No. 2023_DJB_237710_1	24.03.2023 at 2:00 P.M.

Further details in this regard can be seen at (https://govprocurement.delhi.gov.in)
ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER) **(Rohan Jharkhariya)**
Advt. No. J.S.V 536(2022-23) **ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (T) M-5**

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
METROS, Anna Salai,
Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Contract Name	Tender cum auction for Licensing of Advertisement Rights on Piers & Portals along the Corridor I & II of Phase 1 & it's extension in CMRL Network
Contract No	BD/P-III/452/2023/03
Documents Sales from	**08.03.2023 to 03.04.2023** (on all working days between 10.00-17.00 hrs)
Pre-Bid Meeting Date	**14.03.2023 on 11:30** hrs at CMRL Office - MetroS, Anna salai, Nandanam, Chennai- 600 035.
Due Date of Bid Submission	**03/04/2023 up to 15.00 hours** (IST)
Date of Bid Opening	**05/04/2023 at 15.15 hours** (IST)
For complete details, please visit e-procurement website: **http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.** Any Corrigendum/Addendum to this publication, if any, would appear only on above mentioned website and will not be published in newspapers. No manual bids will be accepted.	
Authority and place for purchase of tender document: Chief General Manager (P&BD), Chennai Metro Rail Limited, MetroS, Anna salai, Nandanam, Chennai- 600 035. Phone 044- 2379 2000. FAX : 044- 2379 2200 or Download from **www.chennaimetrorail.org.**	

DIPR/1486/Tender/2023
Director (Finance)
Chennai Metro Rail Limited
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

योजना तथा वास्तुकला विद्यालय, विजयवाडा
School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada
An Institute of National Importance, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India
Survey No.4/4, ITI Road, Vijayawada – 520 008, AP., India.

Ref. No.SPAV/NF/3/2019 Dt: 07.03.2023

The advertisement issued vide Ref. No.SPAV/NF/3/2019 dated 17.07.2019 towards recruitment of Non-faculty positions stands cancelled due to administrative reasons.

Sd/- Registrar

Chief Water Analyst (W&S)-III
Delhi Jal Board, Okhla Sewage Laboratory,
Okhla Sewage Treatment Plant, Mathura Road, Delhi
Stop Corona Maintain Social Distance Wear Mask Wash Your Hand

Press NIT NO.21 Division CWA(W&S)III Okhla (2022-2023)

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	E/Money (EMD) in INR	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solutions
1	Invitation of Bids for, Provisioning, installation, commissioning and O&M of intelligent self-administered and self-monitored automatic chemical dosing system (ISASMAC) at 20 MGD Nilothi STPPhase-II	LumSum	Rs. 3,18,640/-	2023_DJB_237749_1 06-03-2023	20-03-2023 at 13:30 Hrs.

Press NIT NO.22 Division CWA(W&S)III Okhla (2022-2023)

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	E/Money (EMD) in INR	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solutions
1	Invitation of Bids for, Provisioning, installation, commissioning and O&M of intelligent self-administered and self-monitored automatic chemical dosing system (ISASMAC) at 20 MGD Pappankalan STPPhase-II	LumSum	Rs. 3,18,640/-	2023_DJB_237751_1 06-03-2023	21.03.2023 at 13.30 Hrs.

NIT along with all terms & conditions is available on web site https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in
ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER) **Chief Water Analyst (W&S)-III**
Advt. No. J.S.V. 539 (2022-23) **Okhla Sewage Laboratory**

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
CIN-U40101KA2002SGC030438

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement portal)

BESCOM invites tender against Enquiry No. **BESCOM/GM (DAS&TIC)/OFC/BMAZ/2022-23/43 Date: 07-03-2023** for "Leasing of OFC Network of BESCOM in BMAZ Area".

Availability of bid document: on or after **18.03.2023, 15.00 Hrs.** The detailed notification can be obtained from the Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP

Sd/-
General Manager (DAS&TIC)
BESCOM, Bengaluru.

Odisha Tourism
Paryatan Bhawan, Lewis Road,
Bhubaneswar-751014
Fax No. +91 674 2430887
E-mail: info@odishatourism.gov.in

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ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର-୭୫୧୦୧୪

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର
ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ ବିଭାଗ
Government of Odisha
Tourism Department

No. 3347 / TSM, Bhubaneswar, Dated : 06/03/23
TCT-COOD-MISC-0069-2022

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR OPERATION & MANAGEMENT OF NIMANTRAN RESTAURANT IN SAMBALPUR

Department of Tourism (DoT) invites proposals from prospective applicant(s) for Operation & Management of Nimantran Restaurant in Sambalpur in accordance with the conditions and manner prescribed in the Request for Proposal (RFP) document.

The Proposals should be submitted by interested parties to the Director Tourism, Paryatan Bhawan, Lewis Road, Bhubaneswar-751014 on or before **06.04.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs**. The detail terms of RFP may be downloaded from our website: **https://odishatourism.gov.in/content/tourism/en/dot/quickLinks/tender.html**

By Orders of Director, Tourism
Sd/-
Additional Secretary to Govt.

R-20
OIPR-37001/11/0070/2223

INBRIEF

ED takes Trinamool leader Anubrata Mondal to Delhi

In a major setback to arrested Trinamool Congress leader Anubrata Mondal, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday took him to Delhi after doctors at the Joka-ESI Hospital in Kolkata found him fit to travel. Mr. Mondal was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in connection with a cross-border cattle smuggling case on August 11, 2022. Since then, the Birbhum district party president has been behind bars and has been questioned by the CBI and ED on several occasions. Mr. Mondal was brought to Kolkata from a correctional home in Asansol and taken to the city airport by ED officials. He is likely to be produced before a court in Delhi on Wednesday.

Contracts worth ₹9,936 cr. for trainer aircraft, ships signed

The Defence Ministry on Tuesday signed contracts worth ₹9,936 crore for the procurement of 70 HTT-40 basic trainer aircraft and three cadet training ships, in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. The cadet training ships will be indigenously designed, developed and constructed by Larsen & Toubro at its shipyard in Kattupalli, Chennai under a ₹3,108.09 crore deal. Delivery is scheduled to begin in 2026. The ₹6,828.36-crore HTT-40 deal between the Indian Air Force and Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. was announced at Def Expo last October and cleared by the Cabinet Committee on Security last week.

Saurabh Bharadwaj, Atishi to serve as Delhi Ministers

President Droupadi Murmu has accepted the resignations of Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and Minister Satyendra Jain, both currently in Tihar jail, in cases over alleged corruption and money laundering. The President also appointed Aam Aadmi Party MLAs Saurabh Bharadwaj and Atishi as Ministers in the Delhi government headed by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Mr. Bharadwaj has been an MLA of the AAP since 2013 and is currently Vice-Chairman of the Delhi Jal Board. Ms. Atishi is an MLA of AAP since 2020 and has been associated with the party since its inception. PTI

Don't see any role for OHCHR in internal affairs, says India

India on Tuesday voiced regret over comments by the United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation in Kashmir, terming the reference "unwarranted and factually inaccurate". Indra Mani Pandey, Permanent Representative of India to the UN in Geneva, asserted that New Delhi did not see any role for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in matters that were the country's internal affairs. Earlier in the day, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said he had had the opportunity to discuss the "worrying human rights" situation in Kashmir with both India and Pakistan recently. PTI

The concerns over linking Aadhaar with voter IDs

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Around 60% of India's voters now have their Aadhaar linked to their name on the electoral rolls. Activists have raised concerns on disenfranchisement, coercion and privacy as a result of the exercise, which has achieved coverage of over 90% in States such as Tripura, which went to the polls recently, while lagging behind in Gujarat and Delhi, where only around 30% of the electorate has provided their Aadhaar to election officials.

The linking is being carried out by filling Form 6B, which is provided by election officials going door-to-door to collect Aadhaar or any other approved IDs from registered voters. The form was the result of the Election Laws (Amendment) Act passed in 2021 to allow the linking. While the Election Commission (EC) maintains that the linking is optional, Form 6B requires voters to declare that they do not have an Aadhaar to avoid doing so.

The allure of Aadhaar for election authorities is clear: while the EC itself does not have access to the biometrics on the basis of which Aadhaar is issued, the unique identifier issued to each Indian resident allows authorities to flag voters who are registered to vote elsewhere or registered in multiple places. The EC does not authenticate Aadhaar it collects by way of biometrics or one-time passcodes sent by SMS.

Before the Election Laws (Amendment) Act's passage, the Supreme Court had restricted the mandatory use of Aadhaar to welfare schemes and

Special camps are being held across States for the linkage.

PAN linking. Form 6B accepts other proofs of identity if a voter does not have Aadhaar, but it is unclear if this approach has any de-duplicating benefits.

As the Aadhaar-Voter ID linking exercise progressed, some voters said election authorities told them that not providing Aadhaar would lead to their name getting deleted from the rolls. The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Delhi later clarified following one such instance that

Activists have raised issues of privacy, disenfranchisement and coercion as a result of the exercise

the linking was voluntary, and that enquiries would be made.

Not mandatory

The Hindu reached out to the CEOs of India's 36 States and Union Territories. Mizoram Joint CEO David L. Pachuau said that voters were informed that the linking was "voluntary" and "not compulsory". The Joint CEO of Arunachal Pradesh said voters were not being told in the State that linking was mandatory to stay on the rolls. Karnataka's CEO Manoj Kumar Meena reiterated these points, and added that de-duplication of registrations on the basis of Aadhaar collected had not started. Other CEOs did not respond to written queries.

EC officials reportedly said in December 2022 that the de-duplication process – the natural next step of linking Aadhaar – had not yet started. But an episode from 2019 offers a possible glimpse of mass deletions on the basis of Aadhaar.

That year, activists from the NGO Swecha said that documents they had obtained through Right to Information (RTI) requests had revealed that over 20 lakh voters were deleted from the rolls in Telangana following an Aadhaar-linking exercise, then run on a pilot programme called the National Electoral Roll and Purification Programme (NERPAP). The CEO for Telangana at the time admitted that door-to-door verification was not done for all these deletions. The CEO who followed maintained that the majority of the voters were deleted legitimately, citing a low number of voters who re-enrolled.

Privacy issues also emerge from this exercise.

Pointing to an unusual surge in requests for voter deletions from Shivajinagar in Bengaluru last year, Srinivas Kodali, a technology activist, said Aadhaar linking may enable political parties to micro-target voters.

"The assumption is that only the ECI will do the deletion," Mr. Kodali said. But "the data has gone beyond the ECI to political parties. ECI can claim they're not sharing it, but political parties are collecting voter data on the ground or taking it from government officials. Microtargeting through Aadhaar and phone numbers is the issue," he added.

Hailstorm, unseasonal rain damage crops in three States

Chief Ministers of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh order surveys to estimate damage to standing crops in the affected districts; Opposition leaders demand immediate relief to farmers

The Hindu Bureau
PUNE/AHMEDABAD

Hopes crash: A farmer looks at his damaged wheat crops after a hailstorm in Barkheda Nathu village of Bhopal district in Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday. A.M. FARUQUI

Hailstorms flattened crops in north Maharashtra region on Tuesday, while unseasonal rain delivered a blow to wheat farmers in Madhya Pradesh. In Gujarat, rain in over 100 talukas have damaged the standing rabi crops.

The wheat, onion and mango crops have been affected, said a Nashik division official, on the impact of the adverse weather in Maharashtra. "The onion crop which was ready for harvest has become wet. More than 1,800 hectares of wheat and onion plantations in Nashik is likely to be affected," the official said.

Dhule and the Vidarbha region were affected as well.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has ordered an assessment of the crop damage in the districts affected. Leader of the Opposition in the State and Nationalist Congress Party leader Ajit Pawar on Tuesday said that immediate relief should be provided to the farmers.

In Gujarat, the rain has led to a crisis for farmers in over a dozen rural districts. Amid reports of extensive damage to the standing crops, the State government on Tuesday ordered a survey of crop losses due to unseasonal rains in the affected districts.

The rain at the time of harvest has damaged a number of crops in Saurashtra and north and central Gujarat districts.

In the past few days, heavy rain was reported in parts of Rajkot, Amreli and Bhavnagar districts. Rain accompanied by strong winds and thunderstorms lashed Rajkot city, parts of Dhari, Savarkundla, Damnagar, and Lathi taluks of Amreli district, worrying mango growers.

"There is a forecast for unseasonal rains for the next two days and so we will get a final report on crop loss from the districts after that," Gujarat Agriculture Minister Raghavji Patel said in the State Assembly.

Meanwhile, in a farm-related development, the Gujarat government announced a ₹330-crore special package for onion and potato growers, as the prices of red onion and potato have crashed recently due to a glut in the market.

In Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh has ordered a survey of the losses for farmers. The wheat crop in Bhopal, Sehore, Raisen, Vidisha and a few other districts were flattened by the strong wind and hailstorms.

(With PTI inputs)

Forest Dept. to try to unite elephant calves with another herd

P.V. Srividya
DHARMAPURI

Forest Department officials of Tamil Nadu will make efforts to unite two elephant calves, the only survivors of a group that was electrocuted on Tuesday, with a herd.

A special team from the Theppakadu elephant camp will reach the site in Dharmapuri district, where three elephants were electrocuted by an illegal electric farm fence. The field was surrounded by a metal line, a foot-and-a-half high; to this was attached a wooden stick fastened to a metal rod with a hook drawing power from a live wire, said K.V.A. Naidu, District Forest Officer.

The calves are under nine months. "We have to find ways to unite them with some other group. They cannot fend for themselves," the DFO said. "The challenge is to find a herd and see if they accept the calves. In the event of the herd not taking in the calves, the two young ones will be sent to Mudumalai elephant camp."

The three elephants were buried on the site after a post-mortem. The two calves were driven to a distance of 200m from the bodies and a special team is monitoring and the feeding the calves.

The illegal electric wiring that killed three elephants in Dharmapuri district.

The tragedy could have been averted had the Electricity Board been carrying regular checks in the farms, activists said. The illegally tapping into live wires usually occurred after 10 p.m and the connection is pulled out before dawn. "Regular drives and punishment by disconnecting power to the farms would have been a deterrent. But, because there have been no drives, it has emboldened the farmers," says Mr. Naidu.

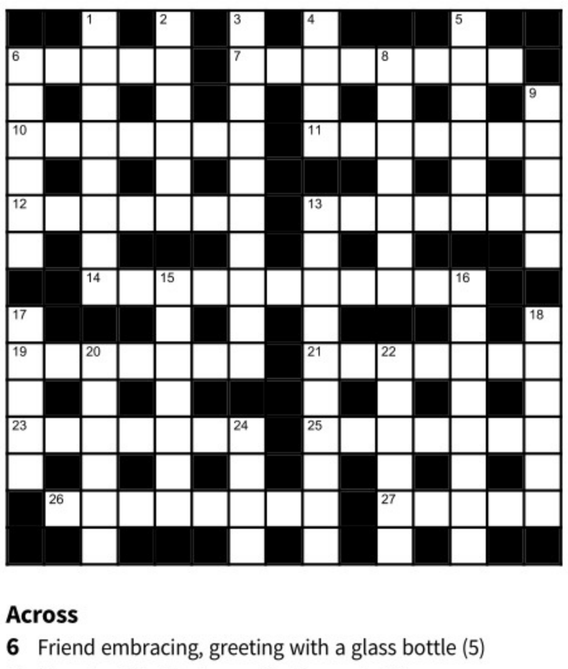
A few weeks ago, an elephant was electrocuted by an illegal fence in Denkanikottai in neighbouring Krishnagiri district, which is part of the Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary. Thecarcass was also clandestinely buried by the farmer till a tip-off led the Forest Department to the site of the crime.

TH CROSSWORD + 13807

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

6 Friend embracing, greeting with a glass bottle (5)
7 Mean to hide his dress mischievously (8)
10 Live match played outside - play! (7)
11 Mixed up with salt, a cook uses it (7)
12 Drink to hide the dubious role of disease (7)
13 "Evergreen growth on currency margins" they report (7)
14 Hands-on meet? Perhaps, much more than that (3,4,4)
19 Fish eating animal, male morphology and syntax (7)
21 Flowers for many applications (7)
23 Goa, very bad for space traveller (7)
25 Airlines notice, man returns call (7)
26 Cryptically clued, odd search leads to a blind alley (3,2,3)
27 Bull fish back on court (5)

Down

1 Easy on a tree? (8)
2 Run on charge - both sides overcharge (6)
3 Spooner's spoil sport, useful for the housewife (4,6)
4 Work to get into the loop usually (4)
5 Charm of the entire flower (6)
6 Stone the up climbing rodents (6)
8 Keep away a politician's entry - need to clean up at the very top (7)
9 Wooden boat (5)
13 Meeting to study magical power (10)
15 Half of them did go around acting like someone powerful and famous (7)
16 Oddly, with each charge becomes very happy (8)
17 Nothing to offer but a pointed arch... (5)
18 ...like some money and growth (6)
20 Retreat for years into a ghetto (6)
22 Tool to allow upcoming fight inside (6)
24 Starts with rough usage, soon tools will corrode (4)

SUDOKU

							6	
	3	5	1	9			2	
6				8		7		
		8		4	2			
	5	6	3		8	1	9	
			5	1		8		
		1		3				7
	6			5	1	9	8	
	8							

No.SS5731 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	A	S	T	H	E	N	O	S	P	H	E	R	E	
S		A		A		I		O		A		E		S
A	P	R	I	L		T	R	U	C	U	L	E	N	T
L		C		I		R		N		N		F		A
A	P	A	R	T	H	E	I	D		T	H	E	F	T
D		S		O				B				R		E
D	A	M	O	S	E	L		I	M	P	A	S	T	O
R				I		O		T		O				F
E	M	B	A	S	S	Y		E	A	S	I	E	S	T
S		U				A				T		Q		H
S	A	C	R	A		L	A	S	S	I	T	U	D	E
I		K		M		T		I		L		A		A
N	O	R	W	E	G	I	A	N		I	N	T	E	R
G		A		E		E		A		O		E		T
	I	M	P	R	E	S	S	I	O	N	I	S	T	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	1	2	7	3	8	5	4	6
8	7	6	4	5	9	3	1	2
5	4	3	2	6	1	8	7	9
3	9	4	8	7	5	6	2	1
2	6	5	1	4	3	9	8	7
1	8	7	6	9	2	4	5	3
4	5	1	9	2	6	7	3	8
6	3	8	5	1	7	2	9	4
7	2	9	3	8	4	1	6	5

FAITH

Six qualities of the Lord

Lord Narayana is all pervasive. He has countless auspicious qualities. He has no inauspicious qualities. The Upanishad gives an analogy to show He remains untouched by karma, said Kazhiyur B. Devarajan, in a discourse. There is a tree, with two birds on it. One bird keeps eating the ripe fruits in the tree, while the other does not eat anything. But the bird that eats fruits keeps getting thinner and thinner, while the bird that does not eat looks healthy and glowing. The tree should be taken to be the equivalent of our life on earth. The jivatma, which takes birth on this earth, has to experience the fruits of its acts in previous births. And it keeps on taking different births, until it attains moksha. But Paramatma has no such connection to karma. His form does not change. His svabhava does not change. Sloka fifteen of Kooratazhvan's Varadaraja Stava is of particular significance, for it shows us Iswara tattva as established by Visishtadvaita philosophy. Six qualities are characteristic of the Supreme One – jnana, sakthi, bala, aiswarya, veerya and tejas. From these six main qualities came all the other auspicious qualities of the Lord.

For each of the main six qualities, Kooratazhvan has an adjective. His jnana is prakrushtam vijnanam – unequalled jnana, which is beyond compare. He has atulam balam – strength that surpasses that of anyone. Akhilam aiswaryam – the entire Universe is His. Vimaryadam veeryam – His valour is limitless. Paramaa sakthi – He is the power behind the functioning of the Universe. Param teja – His effulgence is unmatched. No human being has comparable qualities.

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan ex-PM Imran Khan fails to appear before court, avoids arrest

REUTERS

Former PM Imran Khan did not appear before a court in Islamabad on Tuesday to answer charges in a graft case against him. The no-show was apparently a legal manoeuvre to avoid arrest. The hearing was set by Judge Zafar Iqbal and Mr. Khan was required to appear to respond to charges of selling state gifts while in office. AP

WASHINGTON

'Pro-Ukraine group' behind gas pipeline attack, say U.S. officials

REUTERS

U.S. officials have claimed that a "pro-Ukrainian group" was responsible for the sabotage of the Nord Stream gas pipelines, the *New York Times* reported on Tuesday. In a cautious report, the *Times* said the officials had no evidence implicating Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky in the pipeline bombing. AFP

DAMASCUS

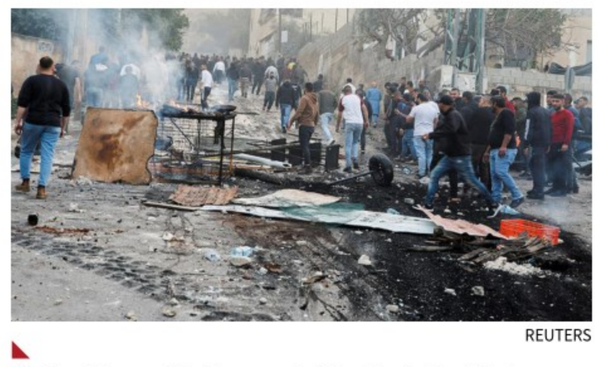
Israel strike knocks out airport in Syria's Aleppo: Defence Ministry

AFP

Israeli warplanes struck Aleppo airport before dawn on Tuesday, causing significant damage that halted flights to and from Syria, the Defence Ministry said. "At 2:07 a.m. local time, the Israeli enemy carried out an air attack from the Mediterranean west of Latakia targeting Aleppo international airport," the Ministry said. AFP

JENIN

At least six Palestinians killed during Israeli West Bank raid



REUTERS

The Israeli Army raided the occupied West Bank city of Jenin on Tuesday, Palestinian health officials said, leading to a gunbattle that killed at least six Palestinians and wounded over two dozen others. The military said it had killed the suspected assailant behind a fatal shooting of two Israeli brothers in Hawara last week. AP

Over 5,000 schoolchildren poisoned: Iran lawmaker

Twenty-five provinces and about 230 schools have been affected, says Mohammad-Hassan Asafari, a member of the parliamentary fact-finding committee; Interior Ministry reports first arrests

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

More than 5,000 Iranian schoolchildren have been affected by a spate of poisonings that has targeted mainly female pupils since late November, according to a lawmaker investigating the cases.

The mystery poisonings have gripped Iran, triggering a wave of anger and demands for action from the authorities.

They have also sparked international concern and Western calls for an independent investigation, particularly as the first cases were reported soon after the start of nationwide protests sparked by the death of Iranian Kurd Mahsa Amini, 22, following her arrest for allegedly breaching Iran's strict dress code for women.

Scores of schools have been hit, with pupils suffering symptoms ranging from shortness of breath to nausea and vertigo after reporting "unpleasant" odours on school premises. Some have been treated in hospital. "Twenty-five provinces and approximately 230 schools have been affected, and more than 5,000 schoolgirls and boys poisoned," Mohammad-Hassan Asafari, a member of the parliamentary fact-finding committee, told the ISNA news agency on Monday.

Kids attacked: The video grab shows people raising slogans at the Education Ministry building over the poisoning incident. AFP

"Various tests are being carried out to identify the type and cause of the poisonings. So far, no specific information has been obtained regarding the type of poison used."

Calling the poisonings an "unforgivable crime", Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei gave orders on Monday for the perpetrators to be tracked down "without mercy".

President Ebrahim Raisi already tasked the Interior Ministry last week with providing continuous updates on the investigation.

"In less than 5% of the students transferred to hospital, irritant materials were found which led to their ill-health," the Ministry said in its latest update on Monday. "Fortunately, so far, no toxic or dangerous substances have been found in any of the students transferred to medical centres." The latest case – reported by the *ISNA* news agency – involved 40 pupils, all of them female, in the restive southeastern city of Zahedan.

The White House called on Monday for a "credible independent investigation" into the poisonings.

First arrests

Iran's Deputy Interior Minister on Tuesday announced the first arrests related to poisonings. "Based on the intelligence and research measures of the agencies, a number of people have been arrested in five provinces and the relevant agencies are conducting an investigation," Majid Mirahmadi told state television.

China has sent assurances backing IMF package, Ranil tells Parliament

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka has received China's much-awaited financing assurances, President Ranil Wickremesinghe told Parliament on Tuesday, expressing hope that it would unlock the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) promised $2.9 billion package by the end of the month.

China's pending assurances had proved a bottleneck in Sri Lanka's ongoing attempt to urgently secure the Fund's support to recover from last year's financial meltdown. After receiving the assurance from the Exim Bank of China on Monday night, the President and the Governor of Sri Lanka's Central Bank signed the letter of agreement and forwarded it to the IMF. "Now our duties are done. I hope that

Ranil Wickremesinghe

before the end of this month, by the fourth week, the IMF will do its duty. After that, we get the first round of money from the World Bank and ADB [Asian Development Bank]," Mr. Wickremesinghe said, terming the likely IMF agreement one of "special importance".

Later on Tuesday, the IMF acknowledged China's assurances in supporting Sri Lanka's debt restructure process. Krishna Srinivasan, Director of Asia and Pacific Department, IMF, said in a statement: "Sri Lanka has now received financing assurances from all major bilateral creditors. This paves the way for consideration by the IMF's Board on March 20 the approval of the Staff Level Agreement reached on September 1, 2022 for financing under an Extended Fund Facility." Approval by the Board would also "catalyse financing from other creditors", and "help Sri Lanka emerge from its current crisis and set it on a trajectory of strong and inclusive growth," he said.

Recovery process

While the IMF is yet to officially confirm receipt of China's assurances, the development is significant for those in Sri Lanka who have pinned their hopes on the IMF to kickstart Sri Lanka's economic recovery process. The Fund had made its support contingent on adequate financing assurances from Sri Lanka's top bilateral creditors. While India and Japan, through the Paris Club group of creditors, had sent their assurances earlier this year, China took longer to come on board.

Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Ali Sabry recently told *The Hindu* that China's offer until now was not compatible with the IMF's requirements, and that Colombo was trying to "narrow the gap". Following President Wickremesinghe's announcement, Mr. Sabry thanked China in a tweet, for "paving the way" for IMF support, and termed the move a "milestone" in Sri Lanka's path to economic recovery.

Mr. Wickremesinghe invited the political Opposition to join his government's efforts to "stabilise the country's economy".

Kyiv identifies Ukrainian soldier killed in viral video

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

Ukraine said on Tuesday it had identified a soldier filmed being shot dead in a video that circulated widely on social media, sparking outrage and spurring officials to demand a probe. The footage shows what appears to be a detained Ukrainian combatant standing in a shallow trench, smoking, and being shot after saying "Glory to Ukraine".

The phrase spoken by the alleged detained Ukrainian soldier was trending on social media on Monday and senior officials in Kyiv blamed Russian forces and called for justice.

"According to preliminary data, the deceased is a serviceman of the 30th separate mechanised brigade – Tymofiy Mykolayovych Shadura," the Ukrainian military said. "The final confirmation of his identity can be established after the body is returned," it added. Kyiv said the killed soldier's remains were located in territory currently controlled by Russian forces.

In an address to the nation on Monday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said the video showed Russian forces "brutally killing" a Ukrainian serviceman.

17 killed, over 100 injured in Bangladesh building blast

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

At least 17 people were killed and more than 100 injured after an explosion struck an office building in the Bangladeshi capital's commercial district on Tuesday, police and medics said. The cause of the blast remained unclear, but fatal building fires and explosions are common in Bangladesh, where safety enforcement is often lax.

The blast shook the lower floors of a seven-storey building in Gulistan, a major hub for wholesale goods in Dhaka shortly before 5 p.m. local time.

Several floors of the building and the side walls were destroyed in the explosion, which sent rubble and splinters flying into crowded streets.

More than 100 people were treated for head wounds, fractures and other injuries at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital,

Fatal blast: Firefighters engaged in the rescue operations after the explosion in Dhaka, on Tuesday. REUTERS

hospital director Nazmul Islam told *AFP*.

"At least 15 people have died, including two women," he said.

No substantial fire broke out in the building, which housed dozens of warehouses, shops selling bathroom fittings, and other commercial spaces.

More than 150 firefighters were at the site to assist in rescue efforts, a fire services spokesperson said.

"Our officers are investigating whether it was an act of sabotage or an accident," Police Commissioner Khandaker Golam Faruq told reporters.

A bus driver caught in the blast said 30 of his passengers were injured when his vehicle passed the building as the blast hit.

"I heard a loud explosion and then I was hit in the head by a flying object," he told reporters.

Another witness said people were trapped in the second, fourth and fifth floors of the building when firefighters arrived and rushed them to hospital.

(Government of Karnataka)
RURAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT HASSAN DIVISION HASSAN
Phone No.08172-261640 Email Id:eerdwsd.hsn@gmail.com

TWO COVER & ONE COVER SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO:27/2022-23 DATED : 06.03.2023

On Behalf Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Department Hassan Division Hassan. Has Invited the Tender for the works of Arakalagud Taluk Approved under2022-23JJM Mention Below, One Cover System works Arkalgudu Taluk 06 Work (SC-4, ST-2) Two Cover System works Arakalgud Taluk 34 WorkS (Gen) Indnet No: (59245, 59250, 59251, 59728, 59730, 59429, 59260, 59262, 59433, 59437, 59290, 59292, 59732, 59442, 59293, 59294, 59297, 59298, 59444, 59302, 59305, 59308, 59449, 59312, 59314, 59317, 59318, 59321, 59322, 59325, 59326, 59735, 59737, 59739) Above work tenders are invited in Two cover system in e-procurement portal. The tender details are available in www.e-procurement.karnataka.gov.in From 06-03-2023 After 11.00A.M. The bidder should submitted the tender with in the dated: 17-03-2023before 5-30 P.M. On Dated: 10-03-2023 The Pre-bid Meeting will be conducted in this office, Interested Contractor may participated. Venue : Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Zilla Panchyath Building, N.R,Circle Hassan. The Technical bid will open on dated: 20-03-2023 after 5:30 P.M. The Financial bid of the Technically qualified bidder will be open on dated:22-03-2023 after 11.00A.M. The Executive Engineer has reserved the rights of to cancel all tender or any one tender without giving any reason.

Sd/- Executive Engineer Rural drinking water and sanitation Dept, Hassan division,Hassan.

ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/ಎಂಸಿಎ/1204/2022–23

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our Client intends to purchase Agricultural Property more fully described in the schedule hereunder (Schedule Property) from its owners namely **Sri. K. Surya Prakash** S/o. Late. Sri. S.Krishnamurthy, Aged about 63 years, Residing at No. 90, Ganesh Nivas. 3 Cross, Mount Joy Extension, Hanumanthanagar, Gavi Puram Extension, Bengaluru-560019.

If anybody has any charge, lien, interest or title or claim or agreement on the Schedule Property they should come forth with copies of Documents in support of such claim and produce the same to the undersigned within 7 days from the date of this Public Notice. In the event, no such legally tenable claim is received, our client shall proceed with the purchase of the Schedule Property as if no such claims exist or that they have been waived or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM No. 1: All that piece and parcel of Agricultural Property bearing **Sy. No. 229/2,** measuring 2 acres 36 guntas, situated at Kodiyalakarenahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District and bounded on the:East by: Land belongs to Smt. Sanjeevamma @ Sarala,West by: Land belongs to Sri. Kariyappa,North by: Land belongs to Sri. Jayaram, South by: Land belongs to Sri. Ramaiah.

ITEM No. 2: All that piece and parcel of Agricultural Property bearing **Sy, No. 233,** measuring 4 acres 14 guntas, situated at Kodiyalakarenahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk. Ramanagara District and bounded on theEast by: Land in Sy. No. 229/2. West by: Land belongs to Sri. Kenchathimmaiah, North by: Land belongs to Sri. Kariyappa, South by: Land belongs to Sri. Karikenchappa.

Sd/-
Date: 07.03.2023
Place: Bangalore
UNITED SOLICITORS LAW FIRM,
No. 107, 3. Floor, 8. C Main, Opp. Jain Temple, 4th Block, Jayanagar (West) Bangalore-560011, 080-26640085.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. SEE/T (W&M)/MYS/EEE(O)/AEE-1/22-23/7503-06 Dated : 07.03.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

KPTCL invites bid against enquiry no: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/REPL/21** for Replacement of 2x 8MVA, 66/11KV Power Transformer by 2 x 12.5 MVA, 66/11KV Power Transformer at 66/11KV Mahadeshwarapura Sub-Station in Pandavapura Taluk, Mandya District on **Partial Turnkey Basis.**
The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink 'e procurement - KPTCL' or to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **09.03.2023.** Any other details can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Elec., Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, I Floor, Prasarana Bhavana, N.R.Mohalla, FTS Compound, Mysuru-570 007.

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE SE (DR) PROJECT-IV, THROUGH THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (P)SR-II
ROOM NO. 307: VARUNALAYA PHASE-I,
JHANDEWALAN, KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI:-110005
E-mail-eesr2.djb@gmail.com
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Short NIT No. 04 (2022-23) (Re-invited)

SR. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Tender Fee	Date of release of tender in procurement solution and tender ID	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
1.	Construction of 4 Nos. of Decentralized Sewage Treatment Plant and Sewage Pumping Station along with other associated / allied appurtenant work under Najafgarh drainage Zone, Delhi, along with Ten years Operation & Maintenance and two years Defect Liability Period on Hybrid Annuity Mode-DBO basis.	PPP / HAM BASIS	1500	2023_DJB_237792_1	31.03.2023 / 3:00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in

ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 538 (2022-23) **EE(P)SR-II**

Bangalore - Mysore Infrastructure Corridor Area Planning Authority
No. 5, Second Floor, Looplane, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560 009
Tel : 080 22341230/35 E-mail: bmicapa@gmail.com

No:BMICAPA/CLU-02/49/2022-23 **Date: 07.03.2023**

PUBLICATION
(UNDER SEC 14(A) OF KTCP ACT, 1961)

Sri Rajani Kanth. J S/o Late Jagannath Owner and GPA Holder has applied to this Authority seeking Change of land use from "Agriculture" Zone to "Residential" Zone which land is reserve for Agriculture purpose in approved Master plan under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act 1961, pertaining Sy. No. 3/1, Extent 00Acre-12Gntas, Sy. No.3/5 Extent 00Acre-10Guntas and Sy. No.:3/4 Extent 00Acre-07½ Guntas totally measuring 00Acre-29½ Guntas of Thimmasandra Village, Kasaba Hobli, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara District. Applicant has stated that the change of land use sought is in the interest of public by quoting the following;

1) If this land is developed and layout formed, sites will be available at reasonable rates to middle income group and economically weaker section.
2) At the time of carving and designing the Layout, there will be job opportunities to labours.
3) If this land is developed, then the surrounding area will also get developed.
4) If the planned development takes place, good road, civic amenity sites and parks etc, will be available for General Public.

Objection, if any, are invited from the public, any person may file his/her objection to Member Secretary, BMICAPA, Bengaluru in writing to the above address mentioned in this publication within 16 days from the publication of this notice. Any objection received after 16 days will not be considered.

Sd/- Member Secretary B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/5130/AKAR/22-23

Government of Karnataka
Zilla Panchayat, Chitradurga
No.: ZPC/Dev/SBM/SLWM/CR-146/5/2022-23 Dt:03.03.2023

Short-Term e-Tender Notification

Tender is invited through e-procurement after fixing the date of Tender as per K.T.P.P. Rules for supply of 3 wheeler customized box tipper with wet and dry partition including announcement system (Auto Tipper Diesel) approved under Solid Waste Management Programme of Swachh Bharat Mission (R) for Gram Panchayats in the limits of Chitradurga Zilla Panchayat. If by chance any of the dates published in the Tender Process is declared as holiday, the next working day of the office will be considered. Tender process details: (1) Date of viewing/ downloading Tender Documents in the website From 03.03.2023 to 10.03.2023 (2) Approx. amount put to Tender Rs. 65,00,000/- (3) E.M.D. Amount (Variable EMD) Rs.1,30,000/- (4) Last date for receiving filled Tenders 10.03.2023 at 5.00 PM (5) Date of Pre-bid Meeting 07.03.2023 at 11.00 AM (6) Date of downloading Technical Bid of Tender and Documents 13.03.2023 after 11.00 AM (7) Date of opening Financial Bid 16.03.2023 after 11.00 AM If further information is required it can be obtained from of the office of the undersigned during working hours on phone No. 9480861004 or from website http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and phone No. 08194-222792.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/1103/2022-23

Chief Project Officer And Nodal Officer, Swachh Bharat Mission (R) Scheme Zilla Panchayat, Chitradurga

INBRIEF

Blue Star unveils deep freezers with higher cooling capacity

Blue Star Ltd. on Tuesday unveiled a wide range of deep freezers with extra storage and higher cooling capacity manufactured at the Wada plant. "Blue Star is already a key player in the commercial refrigeration marketplace and we now expect to make an even deeper impact in this market," managing director B. Thiagarajan said in an interaction.

City Union Bank introduces credit card in tie up with 42 CS

City Union Bank (CUB), in partnership with 42 Card Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (42 CS), has rolled out Dhi CUB Visa Signature Credit Card. 42 CS would manage the end-to-end credit card processing services backed by Brazilian tech firm Pismo, the private sector lender said. As part of the trial run, the bank issued credit cards to its employees and plans to have about 30,000 active cards by March end. Priority will be given to CUB's existing customers over new-to-credit customers, City Union Bank said.

HDFC Bank unit flags data breach at service provider

HDB Financial Services, the non-bank lending unit of HDFC Bank, said there was a data breach at a service provider which processed customer information. "We have taken immediate steps to secure the service provider's system to prevent any further unauthorised access," HDB said in an e-mailed statement. The company did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment on the nature of the data breach and how many customers were affected. HDFC Bank said it was not affected. REUTERS

Adani prepays ₹7,374 crore of share-backed financing

Conglomerate says move consistent with commitment to reduce 'overall promoter leverage' and strengthen the balance sheets; Hindenburg had in its report flagged the group's high level of debt

The Hindu Bureau
AHMEDABAD

The Adani Group on Tuesday said it had prepaid share-backed financing of ₹7,374 crore as the conglomerate tries to recover from U.S. based short seller Hindenburg Research's scathing report on its businesses.

Earlier last month, amidst a rout in its stocks, the group had prepaid ₹9,200 crore worth loans to release shares pledged by the promoters.

"In continuation of promoters' commitment to reduce the overall promoter leverage backed by Adani listed company shares... we have prepaid share backed financing of ₹7,374 crore ahead of its latest maturity in April 2025," the conglomerate said in a media statement.

With the latest prepayment of loans to various banks and financial institutions, 155 million shares in Adani Ports, 31 million shares in Adani Enterprises, 36 million shares in Adani Transmission, and 11 million shares in Adani Green will be released.

The group said that the move was consistent with promoters' commitment to prepay all share backed financing before March 2023, as part of strengthening its balance sheets.

Hindenburg had accused the group of malpractices and flagged the high level of debt.

Paring pledges

The Adani Group is paring the level of debt raised through pledges of promoter stakes as it seeks to bolster balance sheets

- In February, group had prepaid ₹9,200 crore worth loans to release shares pledged by promoters
- Latest prepayment of financing done ahead of maturity date of April 2025
- Group says move consistent with promoters' commitment to prepay all share backed financing before March 2023

More seats to India will help lower airfares: Emirates

Jagriti Chandra
Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Mohammad Sarhan

India must allow airlines to fly a greater number of seats to and from Dubai, in the absence of which airfares will continue to remain high on routes that are among the busiest in the world, said Emirates India head Mohammad Sarhan.

"We've been into the current bilateral [air service agreement] for almost 10 years," Mr. Sarhan, Vice President for India and Nepal at Emirates, said in an interview. "We have reached the upper cap and I believe Indian carriers have also reached the maximum limit. It is time to open the bilateral tap, and allow both sides to grow," he added.

Bilateral pact

Under the bilateral air service agreement (ASA) signed between the UAE and India in January 2014, the airlines of both nations are allowed to operate a total of 66,000 seats per week between Dubai and 15 Indian cities. Last year, the UAE requested the Ministry of Civil Aviation to raise the number of seats for Dubai by another 50,000.

Flights to Dubai from Delhi and Mumbai have seen sky-high airfares since COVID-19, which is also in part due to restrictions in flight capacity between the two countries. "If you keep supply under pressure and demand is growing, the prices will go up," said the Emirates official.

Airfares for flights to Dubai from New Delhi, Bangalore and Cochin have seen an average increase of 45-50% as compared with pre-COVID fares, data from travel booking portal ixigo shows. A senior government official said that the talks on revising the ASA were in a "logjam" and acknowledged that "blue collar workers flying on the route are worst hit."

But there is "a need for a political push," to address the issue, said the official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

"Gulf carriers like Emirates would like to add capacity so that they can carry passengers beyond Dubai to North America and Europe," said Ameya Joshi, aviation analyst and founder of aviation blog, NetworkThoughts. "Markets like India work as a feeder network that helps them serve bigger destinations with long-haul flights, and this is their key business model. So, it is up to the Indian government to either protect the interest of domestic carriers, or allow free competition where the customer is king and benefits from lower airfares due to a stiff competition," he added.

'Growth slowdown in late 2022 temporary'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Moody's Analytics said India's domestic economy, rather than trade, is its primary engine of growth and the slowdown in economic activity late last year would only be temporary.

Government data released last week showed GDP growth slowed to a three-quarter low of 4.4% in the October-December period, mainly on a contraction in manufacturing and low private consumption expenditure.

Moody's Analytics said: "Our take is the slowdown late last year will be temporary and even salutary, helping to wring some of the demand-side pressures out of the economy without stopping it wholesale. Also, better growth in the U.S. and Europe's incipient recovery will propel India to the mid-year mark."

'Credit card dues hit record ₹1.87 lakh cr.'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The credit card outstanding in January rose 29.6% to reach an all-time high of ₹1.87 lakh crore on the back of increased digitisation and rising consumer confidence in the post-COVID period.

As per the latest data of the Reserve Bank, the credit card outstanding has recorded a growth of more than 20% in the 10 months of the current fiscal.

June had recorded the highest growth of 30.7%.

"Many categories have been digitised which has resulted in increased spends from existing customers using credit cards," said Rama Mohan Rao Amara, MD & CEO, SBI Card.

The ease of payments has contributed to this rise in spending in categories, including, education and utility bills, among others, Mr. Rao added.

China Jan.-Feb. exports, imports dip again as global demand trips

Reuters
BEIJING

A fall in China's exports for the January-February period pointed to continued weakness in demand for the country's products, backing government concerns that a global slowdown will be felt at home.

Imports dropped, too, government data showed, also partly reflecting weak foreign demand, since the country brings in parts and materials from abroad for many of its exports.

Exports in the two months were 6.8% lower than a year before, after a

9.9% annual fall seen in December. Imports were down by 10.2%. December imports had been 7.5% lower than a year earlier.

Inflation impact

"Given the high inflation in the U.S. and Europe, demand from there should keep weakening, which also dampens the processing demand in China," said Iris Pang, chief economist for Greater China at ING.

Commerce Minister Wang Wentao on Thursday cautioned that downward pressure on China's imports and exports would increase significantly this year, because of the risk of a global recession and weakening external demand.

China has set a target for gross domestic product growth this year of about 5%, after the economy, the world's second largest, grew 3% in 2022, one of its slowest rates in decades.

'MFs have only 10% women managers'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The total number of fund managers saw a healthy increase this year to 428 from 399 last year

Women account for only 10% of the total fund managers in the mutual fund (MF) sector despite a gradual increase in their numbers witnessed in the last few years, as per a report.

The Morningstar Investment Adviser India's annual report on women fund managers in the asset-management industry said the total count of women fund managers has risen from 32 last year to 42 now.

Interestingly, the total number of fund managers also saw a healthy increase this year to 428 from 399 last year.

"When it comes to gender diversity, the latest findings of our report show that of the 428 fund managers, 42 are women who are managing funds either as primary or secondary managers," as per the Morningstar report released ahead of International Women's Day on May 8.

Fed likely needs to raise rates higher, possibly faster: Powell

Reuters
WASHINGTON

The Federal Reserve will likely need to raise interest rates more than expected in response to recent strong data and is prepared to move in larger steps if the 'totality' of incoming information suggests tougher measures are needed to control inflation, Fed Chair Jerome Powell told U.S. lawmakers.

The remarks were his first since inflation unexpectedly jumped in January and the U.S. government reported an unusually large rise in payroll jobs for that month.

Jerome Powell

While some of that unexpected economic strength may have been due to warm weather, Mr. Powell said that the Fed was cognisant it may also be a sign the U.S. central bank needs to do more to temper inflation.

The Fed will hold its next policy meeting on March 21-22, with the release this Friday of the government's monthly jobs report and an inflation report next week.

Inflation has declined since Mr. Powell's last appearances in Congress. After topping out at 9.1% in June, the Consumer Price Index slid to 6.4% in January; the separate Personal Consumption Expenditures price index, which the Fed uses as the basis for its 2% target, peaked at 7% in June and had fallen to 5.4% as of January.

Sport

Arjun clinches air rifle gold; Rashmi triumphs

INDIA OPEN

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Arjun Babuta beat Paarth Makhija 17-13 to win the men's air rifle gold in the India Open shooting championships at the Dr. Karni Singh Range, Tughlakabad, on Tuesday.

The 24-year-old Arjun, a World Cup gold medallist, shot 264.4 in the medal round after having qualified on top with 633.4.

Cut above the rest

He was a cut above the rest, but Paarth was able to run him close in the gold medal match.

Rashmi Kumari beat

Arjun. FILE PHOTO: S. MAHINSHA

Shambhavi Kshirsagar 16-8 for the women's gold.

It was Shambhavi who had topped the medal round with 261.0, marginally ahead of Rashmi who was able to prevail in the end.

Olympian Ayonika Paul had topped qualification with 628.5 and ended up fourth eventually.

In fact, both Disha Dhankhar and Ayonika missed the gold medal match by 0.2 and 0.4 point respectively.

The results:

10m air rifle: Men: 1. Arjun Babuta 17 (264.4) 633.4; 2. Paarth Makhija 13 (260.6) 627.8; 3. Samarvir Singh 258.6 (626.7); 4. Manpreet Singh 258.5 (622.9).

Women: 1. Rashmi Kumari 16 (260.7) 627.1; 2. Shambhavi Kshirsagar 8 (261.0) 624.5; 3. Disha Dhankhar 260.5 (626.5); 4. Ayonika Paul 260.3 (628.5).

Narrow miss for Ganemat in World Cup

Sports Bureau

Ganemat Sekhon shot a national record-equalling score of 120 out of 125, but missed the birds in the shoot-off and lost the chance to enter the semifinals of women's skeet in the shotgun World Cup in Doha on Tuesday.

It was an exemplary performance by Ganemat to shoot 99 birds straight after having missed four of the first 23. Missing one of the last three in the fifth round meant that Ganemat was tied with four others for the last four places for the next stage. She eventually placed ninth.

The former World and Olympic champion, 43-year-old Kimberly Rhode of the USA won her 11th World Cup gold in skeet as she beat compatriot Samantha Simonton 6-5 in the shoot-off after the two were tied on 38.

In men's skeet, it was a high-scoring affair, with a score of 122 requiring nine to have a shoot-off for the last three berths in the semifinals.

Anantjeet Singh Naruka shot 120 for the 32nd place in a field of 114 shooters. Gurjoat Khangura also shot 120 for the 36th spot while Mairaj Ahmad Khan shot 119 for the 55th place.

The results: Skeet:

Women: 1. Kimberly Rhode (USA) 38(6) 28 (122); 2. Samantha Simonton (USA) 38(5) 26 (124); 3. Simona Scocchetti (Ita) 27 (28) 120; 4. Iryna Malovchko (Ukr) 18 (26) 120; 9. Ganemat Sekhon 120; 25. Darshna Rathore 117; 28. Maheshwari Chauhan 116. RPO: Sanjana Sood 114.

World tennis conference from March 30

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The third World tennis conference will be organised virtually by Global Professional Tennis Coaches Association (GPTCA) and Segal Institute, from March 30 to April 2.

The conference is scheduled to feature a number of world's leading coaches, World No.1 players, Grand Slam champions, legends, sports scientists, including Toni Nadal, Pat Cash, Gilles Cervara, Magnus Norman, Tommy Haas, Dominik Hrbaty, Brian Gottfried, Jimy Arias and Brad Gilbert.

The conference, with 68 speakers from 28 countries, aims to improve the level of understanding of coaches about player development.

Court not interfering in selection to Worlds

BOXING

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

After hearing the petition filed by boxers Manju Rani (48kg), Shiksha Narwal (54kg), and Poonam Poonia (60kg) challenging their non-inclusion in the Indian team for the upcoming World women's boxing championships, the Delhi High Court on Tuesday 'did not interfere with the selections' made for the elite event.

The Boxing Federation of India (BFI), through its counsels Hrishikesh Baruah and Parth Goswami, informed the court that the federation followed its selection policy while picking the boxers for the World championships.

After inclusion in the National camp, the athletes were evaluated on various parameters by the High Performance Director and National team coaches. The selection was done without (any) bias and the team was selected after carefully evaluating players over the weeks at the National camp, said a statement from the BFI.

The court "did not interfere with the selections made for the World championships." The BFI has been directed to place on record the internal evaluation papers on Monday. The court also directed the BFI to consider the petitioners as reserve boxers in their respective weight categories, said the boxers' counsel Sandeep Lamba.

SOLID BACKING

Ponting backs Kohli to perform in ongoing Border-Gavaskar series

Ricky Ponting won't assess Virat Kohli's form on the basis of his performance in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy because the pitches have been a "nightmare". "I'm every day of the week putting my hand up and not even showing any sort of concern to Virat Kohli. Because I know he will bounce back."

HOT STREAK

Toney on the prowl again as Brentford edges out Fulham

Ivan Toney extended his hot-streak as the Brentford striker's 15th Premier League goal this season helped clinch a 3-2 win against west London rival Fulham on Monday.
The result: Brentford 3 (Pinnock 6, Toney 53-pen, Jensen 85) bt Fulham 2 (Solomon 39, Vinicius 90+9).

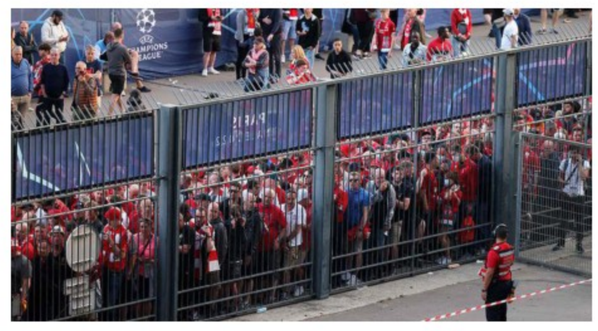
POSITIVE

PSG's Neymar will 'come back stronger' from ankle surgery

Neymar promised to "come back stronger" after PSG said on Monday the forward requires ankle surgery and will be out of action for three to four months. The Brazilian "has had several episodes of instability in his right ankle in recent years", said the club, adding that its medical staff "recommended a ligament repair operation".

REFUND SCHEME

UEFA to reimburse Liverpool fans who attended CL final in Paris



UEFA will reimburse all Liverpool supporters who attended last year's chaos-hit Champions League final between the English club and Real Madrid in Paris. The refund scheme would cover the entire Liverpool allocation of 19,618 tickets, as well as supporters of Real and other spectators affected by the trouble outside the stadium.

Lanning and Jonassen script Capitals' commanding win over Warriorz

The Delhi skipper hammers a 42-ball 70 before the Australian all-rounder's unbeaten 42 off just 20 balls powers the side to a mammoth 211 for four; the bowlers get into the act to restrict the Uttar Pradesh team to 169 for five with McGrath's 90 not out the silver lining in the chase

WPL

P.K. Ajith Kumar
MUMBAI

It was a night of surprises. UP Warriorz left out the player who won it its last match. A drizzle forced the players off the field for a while.

When it came to Delhi Capitals, though, there were no surprises. Meg Lanning (70, 42b, 10x4, 3x6) made another big score, and put on another significant stand with opening partner Shafali Verma.

And as she has often been doing with Australia in international cricket, Lanning led her side to another victory.

Capitals proved too good for Warriorz in the Women's Premier League encounter at the D.Y. Patil Stadium on Tuesday.

Riding on Lanning's brilliance, useful contributions from Jemimah Rodrigues (34 not out, 22b, 4x4) and Alice Capsey (21, 10b, 1x4, 2x6), and some superb hitting towards the end by Jess Jonassen (42 not out, 20b, 3x4, 3x6), who went on to take three wickets with her left-arm spin, Capitals made 211 for four, after being put in.

Warriorz, already handicapped by the omission of Grace Harris – she had powered the team to an incredible win against Gujarat Giants – could only score 169 for five.

Capitals won by 42 runs to catch up with Mumbai Indians at the top of the table with two wins from as many games.

Warriorz's chase got off to a poor start as it lost three wickets, including that of captain Alyssa Healy, inside five overs. When Deepti Sharma went at the halfway mark, the score read 71 for four.

World No. 1 T20 batter Tahlia McGrath was the Uttar Pradesh team's only hope if it was to pull off another miracle.

She made an unbeaten 90 (50b, 11x4, 4x6), the WPL's highest score, but even that wasn't enough.

Earlier, Lanning and Shafali, easily one of the best opening pairs in the competition, raced to 62 at the end of the PowerPlay.

Among those who suffered most at the hands of Lanning was South African seamer Shabnim Ismail, the replacement for Harris.

This was probably a day and a chase Harris would have relished. However, it was not to be.

Wednesday's match: Gujarat Giants vs. Royal Challengers, 7.30 p.m.

Packing a punch: Capitals skipper Lanning's stroke-filled knock contained 10 fours and three sixes. SPORTZPICS/WPL

Power-hitting: Jonassen swung the momentum Delhi's way. PTI

SCOREBOARD

DELHI CAPITALS
Meg Lanning b Rajeshwari 70 *(42b, 10x4, 3x6)*, Shafali Verma c Navgire b McGrath 17 *(14b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Marizanne Kapp c Deepti b Ecclestone 16 *(12b, 2x4)*, Jemimah Rodrigues (not out) 34 *(22b, 4x4)*, Alice Capsey c Ecclestone b Shabnim 21 *(10b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Jess Jonassen (not out) 42 *(20b, 3x4, 3x6)*; Extras (b-1, lb-1, w-9): 11; Total (for four wkts. in 20 overs): 211.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-67 (Shafali, 6.3 overs), 2-96 (Kapp, 10.2), 3-112 (Lanning, 11.3), 4-144 (Capsey, 14.2).

UP WARRIORZ BOWLING
Shabnim 4-0-29-1, Anjali 3-0-31-0, Rajeshwari 2-0-31-1, McGrath 3-0-37-1, Deepti 4-0-40-0, Ecclestone 4-0-41-1.

UP WARRIORZ
Alyssa Healy c Radha b Jonassen 24 *(17b, 5x4)*, Shweta Sehrawat c Taniya b Kapp 1 *(6b)*, Kiran Navgire c Capsey b Jonassen 2 *(2b)*, Tahlia McGrath (not out) 90 *(50b, 11x4, 4x6)*, Deepti Sharma c Radha b Shikha 12 *(20b, 1x4)*, Devika Vaidya c Radha b Jonassen 23 *(21b, 2x4)*, Simran Shaikh (not out) 6 *(4b, 1x4)*; Extras (lb-4, w-7): 11; Total (for five wkts. in 20 overs): 169.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-29 (Healy, 3.3 overs), 2-31 (Navgire, 3.5), 3-31 (Shweta, 4.2), 4-71 (Deepti, 10.1), 5-120 (Devika, 16.5).

DELHI CAPITALS BOWLING
Kapp 4-1-29-1, Shikha 4-0-18-1, Jonassen 4-0-43-3, Norris 2-0-25-0, Capsey 4-0-25-0, Radha 1-0-11-0, Arundhati 1-0-14-0.
Toss: UP Warriorz.
Player-of-the-match: Jonassen.
Delhi Capitals won by 42 runs.

Hayley Matthews – MI fan then, MI superstar now

P.K. Ajith Kumar
MUMBAI

How Hayley Matthews, tweeted R. Ashwin, was sold for the base price will remain a mystery. The tweet has been read by more than eight lakh people so far.

The India all-rounder had written that on the opening night of the Women's Premier League. Matthews had made 47 off 31 balls to kick-start the Mumbai Indians innings against Gujarat Giants.

"She bowls quality off-spin and could well be an MVP," wrote Ashwin. Coming as it does from one of the best practitioners of off-spin in world cricket, the West Indies captain would be happy with the praise.

A couple of days after Ashwin's tweet, Matthews took three wickets and then smashed an unbeaten 77 off just 38 balls to power Mumbai Indians to a crushing nine-wicket win against Royal Challengers Bangalore.

Come to think of it, she had gone unsold in the first round of the auction at the WPL held here three weeks ago. Matthews, shortly after her heroics against RCB, said she enjoyed the freedom she got, being part of the Mumbai Indians team with so many stars.

"I have the freedom at the top of the order to go really hard," she said. "I have been working on my batting a lot. I enjoy playing alongside (skipper) Harmanpreet Kaur, who has trust in me as a bowler, too."

Mumbai Indians had been a favourite team of hers in the IPL. "From the time I was pretty young, I followed and supported my dad's favourite sports teams," she said.

"He was an MI fan from the very first season and a huge Sachin Tendulkar fan. When I was bought in the auction, somebody brought back my tweets from back in 2013 (about MI)."

Matthews had tweeted then: Let's go Mumbai #IPL.

Well, 10 years later, she's come to Mumbai. And she is rocking.

Matthews.
MUMBAI INDIANS TWITTER

There is a premium on results be it at home or away: Dravid

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

A few minutes before the rest of the Indian team reached the Narendra Modi Stadium for training ahead of the fourth and final Test against Australia, skipper Rohit Sharma walked in to have a look at the wicket.

As the two strips were covered, Rohit went towards the far right and took a closer look at the surface that looked fresh, that did not seem like a rank-turner. Shortly, the captain was joined by coach Rahul Dravid, and for the next ten-odd minutes, the two observed the surface and exchanged a few words before moving toward the nets.

With the Indore Test not lasting beyond seven sessions, and ICC terming the wicket as 'poor', the pitch has once again become the talking point. But as the home team gears up for the key clash and hopes to book a berth in the World Test Championship (WTC) final, Dravid admitted that with the WTC spot at stake, wickets are getting challenging across the world.

"It (the WTC) could be one of the reasons. There is too much premium on results. You draw a game like in Kanpur against New Zealand (in 2021). They [India] took nine wickets in the second innings and you draw the game and it sets you back in a home game. There is tough competition all around, every team is getting results at home. There is a premium on results whether at home or away," Dravid said.

"In this competition, you get four points for a draw and 12 points for a win, so there is a premium on that. There is no question about that."

Result-oriented wickets

He did not want to comment on ICC rating the Indore pitch as 'poor', Dravid, however, made it clear that teams do tend to produce result-oriented wickets keeping WTC qualification in mind. "The match referee is entitled to make his opinion, and share his thoughts on the pitches. It doesn't matter whether I agree with his reading or not. Sometimes, with WTC points at stake, you are looking to play on wickets that produce results and it can happen sometimes, not only in India but across the world," he said. "Sometimes, it's difficult to get that balance right for everyone. That can happen, not only here but it has happened in other places as well."

Ever since the series got underway, there has been a lot of talk over India's decision to produce rank-turners and Dravid believes that the wicket shouldn't be the prime focus.

"Whatever is the wicket, honestly it does not matter. There is a lot of talk on the wicket for a lot of time, it is the same for both teams. Sometimes, it does get challenging for the bowlers and at times, it's challenging for batters. Wickets are like that. We have to learn to play on them, we have to adjust. We played on some challenging wickets overseas, whenever we go," Dravid said.

Plainspeak: Dravid feels it's normal to prepare pitches favouring the host and doesn't understand the debate around it. VIJAY SONEJI

Dravid pays tribute to Dinakar

Sports Bureau
AHMEDABAD

India head coach Rahul Dravid started his press conference ahead of the fourth Test against Australia, remembering *The Hindu*'s senior cricket writer S. Dinakar, who passed away in Indore.

"On behalf of the Indian cricket team, I would like to express my deep sorrow and regret at the passing away of veteran sports journalist S. Dinakar. For a lot of you, he would have been a close friend, a colleague, so our thoughts are with all of you – his friends, his family, his colleagues," Dravid said.

"At a personal level also, I knew Dinakar for a long time. He has covered some of my games from the time I played Ranji Trophy or just after that, he was someone who was passionate about the game in the country, cared for cricketers.

"I pay respect on behalf of the team and personally also, it's a loss.Heartfelt condolences to all of you. Our thoughts are with you all."

Sunil Chhetri comes off the bench, sparks BFC to life

ISL-9

Sports Bureau

For an hour or so, Mumbai City FC confused and bewildered Bengaluru FC, attacking in waves and raining punches.

But for the second game running, Sunil Chhetri proved to be the ghost in the ring, mastering the art of hitting without getting hit.

His header in the 78th minute earned BFC a 1-0 win over Mumbai City FC in the first-leg of the semifinal at the Mumbai Football Arena on Tuesday.

Away goals don't count in the Indian Super League, which means the tie is still on a knife's edge. But BFC's 10th win in a row, against a full-strength MCFC, will be a massive confidence-booster ahead of the home leg on March 12.

The deciding goal came from a corner when an unmarked Chhetri buried a header from close range. The 38-year-old could have made things worse for MCFC in the dying minutes, but couldn't finish off an overlapping run with just the goalkeeper to beat.

But until he came on as a substitute, the hosts were all over BFC, dominating possession and creating the bulk of chances, with the trio of Greg Stewart, Lallianzuala Chhangte and Bipin Singh running rings.

A goal, however, remained elusive. In the 20th minute, Jorge Diaz couldn't bury a free header off a fine cross from Ahmed Jahouh, and on 38 minutes, Gurpreet Singh Sandhu thwarted the Argentine in the nick of time.

Simon Grayson made the first move for BFC just before the hour mark, bringing on Chhetri for N. Sivasakthi.

The India captain started influencing play from the get-go, combining with Javi Hernandez and Roy Krishna to produce BFC's first real chance.

Though that ended with MCFC goalie Phurba Lachenpa making a low save from a tight angle off the boot of Hernandez, Chhetri had sparked his side to life.

By the end of it, he had his teammates dreaming of an appearance in the final.

Go-to man: Chhetri was the star in Bengaluru FC's 10th win in a row. FOCUS SPORTS/ ISL

INBRIEF

South Africa turns to spin for second West Indies Test

Spin pair Keshav Maharaj and Simon Harmer have been drafted into South Africa's team for the second Test against West Indies, coach Shukri Conrad announced on Tuesday. All-rounder Wiaan Mulder and in-form batsman Ryan Rickelton also come into the starting XI at the Wanderers on Wednesday as South Africa look to build on its 87-run win in the first Test at Centurion. Heinrich Klaasen, however, will retain the wicketkeeper role.

The team: Temba Bavuma (captain), Dean Elgar, Aiden Markram, Tony de Zorzi, Ryan Rickelton, Heinrich Klaasen (wkt), Wiaan Mulder, Keshav Maharaj, Marco Jansen, Kagiso Rabada, Gerald Coetzee.

Good start by India in u-20 women's Asian Cup Qualifiers

The India women's team opened its AFC u-20 Asian Cup Qualifiers round one campaign with a commanding 7-0 victory over Singapore, Viet Tri City (Vietnam) on Tuesday. Maymol Rocky's girls started all guns blazing and raced to a six-goal lead within half-an-hour.

The result: India 7 (Apurna Narzary 7, 12, Sumati Kumari 10, Anita Kumari 17, 31, Astam Oraon 24, Kajol Dsouza 89) bt Singapore 0.

England needs to improve, says captain Buttler

Captain Jos Buttler warned the England team that it has "areas to improve" ahead of the one-day World Cup defence after failing to seal a series clean sweep in Bangladesh. England lost the third and final ODI against Bangladesh here on Monday by 50 runs, although the tourists had already secured the series.

Ramkumar-Eysseric duo exits in the pre-quarterfinals

Ramkumar Ramanathan and Jonathan Eysseric of France lost 6-2, 7-6(1) to Austrians Neil Oberleitner and Philipp Oswald in the €73,000 Challenger tennis doubles pre-quarterfinals in Lugano, Switzerland, on Tuesday.

Other results: $15,000 ITF women, Monastir: First round: Lian Tran (Ned) bt Jennifer Luikham 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

LIVE TELECAST

WPL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.

Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 1.30 a.m. (Thursday)

New Zealand vs Sri Lanka: 1st Test, day 1, Prime Video, 3.30 a.m. (Thursday)

Will Mbappe and Messi engineer a PSG turnaround?

Its rival Bayern, which needs only to avoid defeat to ensure passage to the quarterfinals, is set for star turns from its new additions Mane and de Ligt; Milan takes slender lead in visit to Tottenham

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
BERLIN

PSG forward Kylian Mbappe heads to Munich fresh from a record-breaking weekend and determined to lead the French giant past Bayern, which holds a 1-0 lead going into the tie, in the Champions League round-of-16 second leg on Wednesday night.

Injury reduced Mbappe to a cameo appearance off the bench in the first leg. Yet the 24-year-old France superstar did enough in his short time on the pitch then to make it clear that he can swing the tie the Parisians' way.

Potent duo: Bayern's defence will have its task cut to ensure such celebrations don't take place in the PSG camp. AFP

Goal machine

Mbappe has 30 goals in 30 games for his club this season. Lionel Messi, with 18 goals himself for PSG this season, is mainly there to serve Mbappe.

Going out of the Champions League in the first knockout round for what would be the fifth time in seven seasons really would matter for PSG and its Qatari owners.

Meanwhile, for Bayern the stage is set for star turns from their 2022-23 additions Sadio Mane and Matthijs de Ligt.

Bayern needs only to avoid defeat to ensure passage to the quarterfinals.

But just as it is for PSG boss Christophe Galtier, Bayern manager Julian Nagelsmann is well aware that elimination will leave a burn that domestic results will not be able to cleanse.

Early European exits are not to be tolerated in the Bavarian capital, regardless of the quality of their opposition.

In the centre of defence is de Ligt, the man tasked with shutting down PSG's strike duo of Messi and Mbappe.

Even with news emerging that Neymar will miss the tie, the Dutch defender said on Saturday Bayern will have its hands full.

Meanwhile, AC Milan heads to Tottenham Hotspur with a slender 1-0 lead to protect in the night's other game.

The fixtures: Bayern vs PSG, Tottenham vs Milan, 1.30 a.m. (Thursday).

HI's grassroots programme from March 19

HOCKEY

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

Hockey India on Tuesday officially launched its Grassroots Development Programme including zonal championships at the under-16 and under-19 levels to unearth young talent and improve bench strength of national teams.

The first intra-zonal tournaments, in both age-groups for boys and girls, will begin on March 19 with an expected 30 state teams participating across the four zones. Players from these, 33 each, will then be shortlisted for inter-zonal competitions. *The Hindu* had first reported about the ambitious age-group scheme and the detailed modalities of the same in January in an exclusive interaction with Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey.

"The zonal championships will expose young athletes to the same conditions as the various nationals championships and it will be mandatory for shortlisted athletes to participate in the Nationals," Tirkey said on Tuesday.

Each of the four zones will be equipped with separate selection committees of at least three members each, with minimum FIH Level 1 certification and responsible for monitoring players' development.

Tirkey also explained that the federation was focusing on developing players for specialised positions including goalkeepers and drag-flickers at a young age. "We want to groom players in specialised positions with a group of 10 men and women each initially selected for both positions to train," he said.

Rourkela and Jamshedpur have been selected for holding specialised training programmes.

Hockey India's Grassroots Development Committee - formed last year and headed by Tirkey - will also create national under-17 and under-19 teams and identify locations for their training to ensure players do not miss out on academics. The under-23 developmental squad will be integrated into the ecosystem as the final step in the feeder line to the national squad.

Sampath, ex-India footballer passes way

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Former India football goalkeeper Kuppuswami Sampath, 76, passed away here on Monday.

Sampath is remembered for his exemplary performance in the 1970 Bangkok Asian Games when India won the bronze medal.

His teammates recall how Sampath flew to the far post to save a powerful shot from famed Japan striker Kunishige Kamamoto during the closing stages of the bronze medal match. India eventually won by a solitary goal.

Sampath represented the country in 18 matches, which included the 1970 and 1972 Merdeka Cup, the 1970 Asian Games, and the 1971 Pesta Sukan Cup.

Apart from the Asian Games, Sampath was also a part of the India team that ended third in the 1970 Merdeka Cup and joint champions of the 1971 Pesta Sukan Cup in Singapore.

At the domestic level, Sampath had represented Services, Goa and Mysore State.

He also played for the Madras Engineering Club (Bangalore) from 1960 to 1972, and for Dempo SC from 1973 to 1978.

The All India Football Federation (AIFF), Karnataka State Football Federation (KSFA) and Bangalore District Football Association (BDFA) condoled his demise.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Ajay nets four in DYES' runaway win

Ajay Kadam scored four goals to power DYES to a 11-1 win over South India FC in the 'A' division football league here.

The results: DYES FC 11 (Ajay Kadam 8, 22, 32, 49, Chandan 10, C. Prakash 40, S. Hemanth 42, Prathamesh Murgod 46, Bharath Gowda 55, 58, Dhanush 62) bt South India 1 (Irfan Khan 72); BTM FC 1 (Rahul Krishna 72) drew with RWF 1 (D. Dinesh 25); AGRC FC 1 (Santhosh 79) drew with Bangalore Gunners 1 (Sanjeevi 40).

Gopalan National School reigns

Gopalan National School edged out Delhi Public School (North) by four runs in the final to emerge the BTR Shield under-14 Group I, Division I champion here.

The scores:

Final: Gopalan National School 219/9 in 50 overs (Amegh Verma 27, Kush Kumar 50, Rajarshi Mitra 46, Shaurya Murali 3/30, P. Rithesh 3/43) bt Delhi Public School (North) 215 in 50 overs (P. Rithesh 39, Udgeet Nandan 40, M. Assad 52, Suhaan Bhandary 4/37).

Champion: The victorious Gopalan National School.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SWR to take on Mounts Club in final

South Western Railway posted a 76-45 win over Beagles BC in the semifinals of the Mathru Cup State women's basketball league here.

The results: Semifinals: South Western Railway 76 (Anusha 16, Mohanbala 16, Varsha Nandini 16) bt Beagles BC 45 (Chandana 17, Harshitha 13, Mekhala 10); Mounts Club 65 (Pavani 15, Niharika Reddy 15, Roshini 12) bt DYES (Mysore) 51 (Sahana 15, Meghana 13, Jeshtnavi 10).

Bengaluru FC and Blasters grouped together in Super Cup

Stan Rayan
KOCHI

Bengaluru FC and Kerala Blasters, the two teams in the centre of a storm after the Kochi side walked out midway through their Indian Super League playoff match recently, find themselves in the same group in the Hero Super Cup which will be held in Kozhikode and Malappuram from April 8 to 25.

The draw of lots for the Super Cup, which will see ISL and I-League clubs fight each other, was held on Tuesday and Bengaluru, the Blasters, Roundglass Punjab FC along with the winner of qualifier-1 find themselves in Group 'A', one of the four groups in the event.

"Unfortunately, that happened. And it (the draw of lots) was live and since it is a qualifying round for the AFC Cup, transparency had to be there," P. Anilkumar, the secretary of the Kerala Football Association, told *The Hindu* on Tuesday. "We have nothing more to say."

But the Blasters' presence in the Super Cup itself is in doubt at this stage since the AIFF is yet to give its verdict on the team's walkout.

The AIFF disciplinary committee, which met on Monday, had rejected the protest lodged by Blasters after their walkout in Bengaluru on March 3.

The groupings (league matches, April 8-19): Group A (Kozhikode): Bengaluru FC, Kerala Blasters, Roundglass Punjab, Winner Qualifier-1. **Group B (Manjeri):** Hyderabad FC, Odisha FC, East Bengal FC, Winner Qualifier-3.**Group C (Kozhikode):** ATK Mohun Bagan, FC Goa, Jamshedpur FC, Winner Qualifier-2. **Group D (Manjeri):** Mumbai City FC, Chennaiyin FC, NorthEast United FC, Winner Qualifier-4.

Semifinal 1 (Kozhikode, April 21), **Semifinal 2** (Manjeri, April 22). **Final:** Kozhikode (April 25).

Qualifying playoff matches (April 3-6 at Kozhikode).

Ankita-Prarthana combine in last eight

Getting through: Ankita and Prarthana rallied to make the quarterfinals. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ITF WOMEN

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian pair of Ankita Raina and Prarthana Thombare defeated Sharmada Balu and Sarah Rebecca Sekulic (Germany) 5-7, 6-3, [10-6] to enter the doubles quarterfinals of the KPB Trust ITF Women's Open tennis tournament at the KSLTA Stadium here on Tuesday.

The third seeded Indo-Swedish pair of Rutuja Bhosale and Jacqueline Awad also advanced to the last eight after defeating Ji Hee Choi (South Korea) and Lee Ya-Hsuan (Taipei) 6-4, 6-2. In the singles opening round, Japan's Ikumi Yamazaki stunned third-seed Sakura Hosogi 5-7, 3-6. Sharmada, a wild card entrant, lost to No. 8 seed Eden Silva of Britain 2-6, 4-6.

Desperation can be inspiring – but it can be embarrassing too

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

When a team loses, it is a cliché to say the players didn't want to win desperately enough. For the losers, that is both comfort and justification.

Desperation might be a strange quality to seek in sport. It can be inspirational, as when an Anil Kumble, broken jaw wired up, bowls in a Test match (and claims the wicket of Brian Lara). It can be disheartening as when players alter the condition of the ball with sandpaper in a win-at-all-costs approach.

India are beginning to show some desperation too. Skipper Rohit Sharma said at the end of the Indore Test which they lost on a turner that these were the kind of wickets India would like to play on at home. More significantly he said, "It was a collective decision in the team to play on pitches like these." The implication - that the curators have been instructed to prepare such wickets – cannot be escaped.

Not good advertisement

The result, a Test that lasted two days and a session, was neither good advertisement for the game, nor fair to the paying public.

Of the 19 Tests in the last four years or so in India, only three have lasted five days. Television – the one entity that can put pressure on the home team to have sporting wickets that last the distance – lost nearly 30 playing days in that period.

About a decade ago when M.S. Dhoni was captain and gave instructions that a turner should be prepared at Eden Gardens against England, he was told by the then octogenarian curator Prabir Mukherjee that this was "immoral". It was an interesting response, but few curators can go against the wishes of the Indian captain.

India lost that series because England's spinners used the tracks better, while their batsmen led by Alastair Cooke were less troubled by India's spinners. Not for the first time, India fell into a trap they had themselves set.

Unfair to the pacers

If India insist they are playing to their strengths in the current series by initially preparing slow wickets and then the sharp turner in Indore (the match was shifted from Dharamsala), they are insulting some fine fast bowlers they have produced since that England series long ago.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India, tired of the team losing to pace abroad finally gave instructions to leave grass on the pitches for domestic tournaments to encourage fast bowling.

A whole bunch of fast bowlers emerged. Top teams had fast bowlers knocking on the doors of international cricket. It was a dramatic turnaround.

India won Test matches in England and South Africa and successive series in Australia. India's fast bowlers attacked in packs – a thought that only existed in fantasies of the supporters in the 1970s and 80s.

Three-day matches dominated by spin nullify the efforts to have a more varied bowling attack with the likes of Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav, Mohammed Siraj and others who have won Tests for India both at home and away.

India have put in a lot of effort and money to unearth fast bowlers, bowlers who would have struggled to make it in the days when the belief was that only spin could win, and wickets were prepared accordingly.

Regressive

It is a regressive step now to go back to the days of wickets that spin from the first half-hour of a match. There is no worse way of discouraging young and talented fast bowlers. We cannot go back to the days when spinners were ready to bowl the third over of the match, the token shine-removers banished from the attack for the rest of the innings.

Wicket preparation is not an exact science. I have reported Tests where the curator has assured everyone the ball would spin from day two only for the visiting medium pacers to claim 15 wickets in an India defeat!

All curators like to be in the good books of the BCCI, and hate to risk their jobs by preparing tracks that don't help the home bowlers. But that is a short-sighted approach. Home advantage is understandable, but the balance to look for is not between the two teams but between bat and ball.

Desperation can be inspiring, or disheartening. Or embarrassing, as in the case of the mentality that produced the Indore pitch.